

Mr Peart pleases beef farmers but yields on sugar

Mr. Peart, the Minister of Agriculture, reached agreement with the EEC on beef and sugar yesterday after an all-night meeting in Brussels.

Beef farmers hailed the beef deal as "a major break-

through", but too late to ensure adequate supplies for 1976.

On sugar, Mr. Peart met solid opposition and had to settle for less than he had been seeking. He must seek Cabinet endorsement before the agreement can become final.

Cabinet must approve final deal

id Cross

After Nov 20
in all-night marathon
the EEC ministers of
today reached pro-
agreements on new
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farmers and secure
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M. Christian Bonnet,
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high a price as he would have liked, to encourage them to send up to 1,400,000 tons of cane sugar to the British market.

Mr. Peart had been seeking a price of at least £140 a ton on the ground that the developing countries were unlikely to accept less at a time when the world price for sugar has risen above £600 a ton in the event, the rest of the Community, largely on the insistence of the French and the Belgians, refused to go above the Community's present price of about £130 a ton. Britain's partners argued that it would be unfair to offer the developing countries more money than EEC beet sugar producers were receiving.

Mr. Peart had also sought a commitment from the Community that any raw cane sugar provided by the developing countries would go to British refineries to safeguard the jobs of British refinery workers. But the nine refused to go farther than the statement extracted by Mr. Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, last week that the sugar would be exported "in accordance with the traditional patterns of trade".

After a long wrangle, Mr. Peart managed to squeeze two concessions from the Community. These were that British importers would be able to negotiate a special supplementary price with developing countries on top of the country's guaranteed price, at a time when world prices are at an unusually high level as a result of the present shortage situation; and that the new arrangements with the developing countries should be of indefinite duration, with a review between five and seven years after their introduction.

The introduction of the scheme now, with an intervention price rising closer to the Community level by February, will make it much more difficult for the British to discount it, particularly if it operates smoothly.

Farmers' reaction, page 5;
leading article, page 15

radioactive & went detected

Science Correspondent
quiry is being held at
Nuclear Fuels Ltd
Windermere, Cumbria,
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Irwell' plea

ell, the Oxford students'
which has been pub-
for 54 years, has appealed
ey to enable it to con-

TUC tries to calm closed-shop storm

By Our Labour Staff

back to a recommendation of the Donovan commission, whose recommendations formed the basis of Labour's "Place of Safety" proposals. The review tribunal, which would probably be in operation by 1975, would be completely independent in reaching its decisions, and the general council would expect individual trade unions to abide by them.

The tribunal would be in addition to the industrial tribunal to which workers who consider they have been unfairly dismissed can appeal.

Talks with editors: Mr. Foot told MPs yesterday in the Commons that the Employment Protection Bill, which he hoped to present to Parliament this week will not contain a statutory requirement for a closed shop (our Parliamentary Correspondent writes). He told newspaper editors on Tuesday the Government was seeking only to return to the situation that existed before 1971.

Mr. Foot said that there was no statutory requirement for a closed shop in the pre-1971 legislation, and there would be no such proposals in future legislation. The editors' fears that respect were misplaced.

He favoured freedom for editors, journalists, and trade unions. He would try to move the anxiety of editors out the remedies suggested to him were unworkable. Mr. Foot said he had agreed to meet the editors again.

Newspaper strikers, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 8

HOME NEWS

Detainees might stand for Ulster constitutional convention to be elected early next year

By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

The possibility of prisoners and detainees in Ulster standing for election to the proposed Northern Ireland constitutional convention is being examined by Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

He announced that yesterday after making a statement in the Commons on his discussion paper on the procedure for the convention. Although it would be difficult for a prisoner to take his place in the convention if he stood and was elected, Mr Rees said that if a detainee was elected that would weigh very much with him in reaching a decision.

Mr Rees told MPs that elections for the convention will take place early next year. He would aim to give about a month's notice of the date. The name of the convention chairman will not be known until the new year.

In his statement, he said that after the elections the convention would have to deliberate about the future government of Northern Ireland with a view to reaching broadly based agreements and to report its conclusions through him to Parliament.

He continued: "A heavy responsibility rests on the people of Northern Ireland and on those who will elect to the constitutional convention, the responsibility of reaching agreement with each other."

"It is this agreement which Northern Ireland needs, and Parliament will want to be satisfied

solutions it proposes will have to be considered by the Westminster Parliament before any legislation is enacted, and even if full agreement is not reached within the convention, proposals for a government that might command the necessary widespread acceptance in Ulster can still be forwarded for Westminster's approval. It would then be for Parliament to take the balance of opinion within the convention into account in considering the convention's report.

The Government clearly hopes, in spite of all election results to the contrary in the past few months, that the "loyalists" opposed to sharing power will not gain an overall majority.

Political leaders in Northern Ireland took a fairly disinterested view of the Green Paper. Mr Brian Faulkner, the former Prime Minister and Chief Executive, who now leads a unionist splinter group in the province, described it as "a very cold and statistical document", but added that the political vacuum in Northern Ireland would continue to exist until there was another government in Belfast, which would be long after the convention elections.

Mr John Hume, of the Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party, said the Green Paper was the first official government document to insist on sharing of power in the next Administration. British ministers would disagree with that assessment) and maintain that it was an obvious warning to loyalists.

Details of the convention have already largely been made known in official and unofficial government statements. It will, like the prorogued Assembly, have 78 members, although, unlike the Assembly, it will have no legislative function. Any

Mr Heath names the leader makers

By Our Political Editor

Mr Heath last night announced the membership of the committee of 10, all men, to whom he has referred the task of recommending any revision of the procedure for choosing Conservative leaders. As so often in recent years, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, the author of the present leadership election procedure that brought Mr Heath to the top in July, 1965, has been called in as the man to trust to be chairman.

Other members, chosen by Mr Heath because of the offices they now hold, will be as follows (an asterisk marks Mr Heath's additions to the original committee appointed by Sir Alec in November, 1964): Chairman of the Conservative Party (Mr Wheland); Chief Whip, House of Commons (Mr Humphrey Atkins); Leader in the House of Lords (Lord Carrington); Chairman of the House of Lords (Lord St Aldwyn); 1922 Committee (Mr Edward du Cann).

*John vice-chairman, 1922 Committee (Sir John Hall and Mr Charles Morrison); Chairman, National Union (Sir Alastair George); Chairman, National Union Executive (Sir John Taylor).

Backbenchers of the 1922 Committee therefore have two more representatives on the committee than on that which advised Sir Alec on leadership election. The National Union, representing the mass party outside Westminster, has one extra member.

Another change is that Mr Heath, unlike Sir Alec 10 years ago, has decided not to serve as chairman. That in itself may be significant. After all, the whole point of Sir Alec's advisory committee on the original procedure was that he intended to resign the leadership in summer, 1965, and make way for the first democratically elected leader. There is no hint from Mr Heath that he means to give up the leadership without confronting any challenger.

Another point is worth noting. Mr Heath's remit to the committee of 10 is not expressly to recommend amendments to allow the leader to stand for reelection each session in opposition, on the model of the Parliamentary Labour Party; it is to make recommendations in general on procedure for electing the leader.

Sir Alec has called the first committee meeting for Friday and that indicates his sense of urgency. But Mr Heath has laid down no timetable for the recommendations to be delivered to him. The 1964-65 advisory committee sat from November to May, but had to work out a whole new system of balloting.

Mr Heath clearly expects the new committee to be able to report by the turn of the year. Recommendations will then be passed by Mr Heath to the 1922 Committee and the National Union for discussion, and will be presented to the Shadow Cabinet. Finally it will be for Mr Heath to consider both of the committee's recommendations and the comments on them.

Sir Alec and his colleagues have been left free to receive proposals from any quarter of the Conservative Party.

Mineworkers' union sets up an inquiry into pit ballot irregularities

By Our Labour Editor

The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday set up an inquiry into the alleged irregularities in last week's secret pithead ballot which led to the disqualification of 11,400 votes cast by South Wales miners and Scottish colliery craftsmen.

The eight members of the union's organization committee have been given the job of investigating the barring of 22 branches from the final calculation of the ballot result, which went three to two in favour of rejecting the National Coal Board's productivity scheme.

Major Frank Britton, controller of election services for the Electoral Reform Society, who excluded the votes of the Scottish and South Wales branches, gave an account of the disqualification to a meeting of the NUM executive, which agreed without dissent to have the inquiry.

London local papers aim to publish, despite strike

By Alan Hamilton
Labour Staff

Most of London's local newspapers will appear as usual this week in spite of a strike by seven hundred members of the National Union of Journalists, the Newspaper Society said yesterday. Many local newspapers in other areas are, however, being forced to appear with blank pages and, in some cases, with no news at all.

Newspapers in the London area were called out on strike this week in protest at the dismissal of 66 of their colleagues on the Kentish Times group and one on the Slough Evening Mail. Both papers are connected with the Westminster Press newspaper group.

The dismissed journalists were taking part in a campaign of industrial action organized by the National Union of Journalists in support of a pay claim for increases of up to £13.13 a week for all 9,000 provincial

Detergent on beaches 'worse than oil'

From Our Correspondent

Tavistock

Detergent used in an effort to clear Cornish beaches of crude oil after the Torrey Canyon disaster seven years ago caused more harm than the oil, a group of botanists says.

In findings published yesterday by the Institute of Cornish Studies at Camborne, botanists from Bristol University say that the detergent still contaminates the soil. At some sites near The Lizard the smell lingers.

The strikers, who are demanding an extra £10 a week, have ignored union demands for a return to work.

Heir took own life

Mr Julian Ormsby Gore, aged 33, heir of Lord Harlech, took his own life because of illness, the Hammersmith coroner decided yesterday. Friends said he had suffered from depression. He was found shot in his Fulham flat on November 5.

700,000 tenancies to be spared fair-rent legislation

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The automatic transfer of 700,000 controlled tenancies to fair-rent legislation will be stopped under an order made yesterday by Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment. The order defers automatic decontrol until December 31, 1975, by which time the new rent Bill is expected to be law. The move is

part of Mr Crosland's promise to repeal the Conservative Housing Finance Act, 1972, which introduced fair rents for council tenants and provided for a phased transfer of controlled tenancies to the fair-rent regulations.

About 500,000 controlled tenancies, with rents fixed in 1972, have been decontrolled since the Act was implemented. Figures for the first quarter of this year show that the average

Policeman killed by booby-trap bomb

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

Another policeman died in Northern Ireland yesterday when a booby-trap bomb blew up beneath a pavement on the Rathmore housing estate at Craigavon, co. Armagh. Constable Robin Ford, aged 30, died instantly. He was married, with a family.

The estate has been evacuated twice recently after telephone calls from the Provisional IRA, which said it had left explosives there. None was found.

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in spite of all election results to the contrary in the past few months, that the "loyalists" opposed to sharing power will

not gain an overall majority.

Political leaders in Northern Ireland took a fairly disinterested view of the Green Paper. Mr Brian Faulkner, the former Prime Minister and Chief Executive, who now leads a unionist splinter group in the province, described it as "a very cold and statistical document", but added that the political vacuum in Northern Ireland would continue to exist until there was another government in Belfast, which would be long after the convention elections.

The mourners will include M Chirac, the French Prime Minister; King Baudouin of the Belgians; the Belgian Prime Minister; M Thora, Prime Minister of Luxembourg; Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister; M Orlitz, President of the EEC Commission; and Chief Justice Warren Burger, of the United States, representing President Ford, who is in Japan

at Durham Crown Court that he wanted to find out whether the others were really IRA men. From all they said, he concluded that they were just jokers.

Mr Reid, aged 25, told a jury at Durham Crown Court that he had posed as an IRA sympathizer to "lead on" his two fellow-defendants.

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Mr Reid told the court that during his service in London between October 1972 and February 1973, his unit twice came under rocket attack from the IRA.

On the night of the shooting, Mr Reid was left Otterburn Working Men's Club, feeling "the worse for wear". He decided to go to the Percy Arms, where Mr O'Conaill and Mr Kane worked, in an attempt to find out whether they were genuine IRA members.

Mr Kane, Mr O'Conaill and Mr Reid deny murdering Lieutenant-Colonel John Stevenson, the camp commandant, on April 8.

Mr Reid said that Mr O'Conaill had told him he intended to kill the colonel and he already knew where the colonel lived.

"I was shocked", Mr Reid said. "I did not know whether to go in or to run or what to do."

Earlier Dr Humphrey Richardson, a psychiatrist, described Mr Kane as an inadequate psychopath who found it difficult to cope with normal stresses, adding that he was "a constant wanderer who has left trouble behind him, for many years disregarding women and children as well as criminal offences".

But he agreed with Mr Peter Taylor, for the Crown, that Mr Kane should be able to distinguish between right and wrong.

The trial was adjourned until today.

Poison gas ship may be taken out to sea for cleaning

By Stewart Tendler
and Trevor Fishlock

Plans are being drawn up to get rid of poisonous arsine gas in the Asialifter by taking the ship well out to sea and letting the gas escape into the atmosphere. The vessel is expected to be crewed by volunteers with protective clothing.

The decision was made yesterday at a meeting at the Department of Trade, involving 30 representatives of government departments, seamen's and dockers' unions and the commercial firms involved with the ship.

The machine, only recently perfected, was put in the ship's living quarters to give immediate warning should there be an escape of the gas leaking in number two hold, which has been sealed.

One of the toxic gas specialists on board the freighter said: "The detector is the size of a small suitcase, and monitors the atmosphere continuously. Meanwhile, we make routine tests in other parts of the ship by traditional sampling methods, and we are satisfied that the gas remains confined to the hold."

Four seamen are still in hospital in Truro but are expected to be released soon. The worst affected four, in King's College Hospital, London, were responding to treatment, the hospital said yesterday.

A prototype arsine gas detector was flown from the United States

ship well out to sea and exhaust the gas into the atmosphere with careful control and monitoring. Filters may be used if possible to reduce the concentration of the gas allowed to escape."

Until the plan is finally worked out, the Asialifter remains off Falmouth with a skeleton crew. The Government is not paying for the clean-up.

Denholm Ship Management, which owns the ship, said the contents of the 104 containers near the gas, which may have been affected, would have to be checked. Twelve contain leaf tobacco.

The first results of an analysis of legitimate show that while the over birth numbers fell between 1967 and 1972 by 8 per cent, the husband was 16 per cent older, and 16 per cent were unskilled workers.

The report makes reservations about the figures: there is no correspondence of illegitimate births, which are about 81 per cent live births.

The figures did not give direct information on birth numbers over a year reflected changes in the rate of marriages rather than a change in family size. Figures given were one in 30 sample.

But the decline is significant. Moreover, the age decline for social care and 5 was twice as great as the population as a whole.

The statistics also of the total number of performed in the second half of this year dropped from 29,542 in the first. The number of foreign operations formed also fell from 13,061.

The Registrar General's Return for England and Wales (Stationery Office, 50/-)

Professionals people 'have more children'

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

Professional people are having more children, manual and unskilled workers are having fewer, according to statistics published today by the Registrar General's office.

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Jury acquits film-maker of conspiracy

John Lindsay, aged 42, cleared by an all-male Birmingham Crown Court of conspiracy to import obscenity films with a "Coven of Six, Anal & Sex Lessons at School" was sentenced to 12 months.

He admitted making 11 films with a "Coven of Six, Anal & Sex Lessons at School" and giving up county court work, not because they do not wish to provide this service to the public but because they cannot afford to cope with normal stresses, adding that he was "a constant wanderer who has left trouble behind him, for many years disregarding women and children as well as criminal offences".

But he agreed with Mr Peter Taylor, for the Crown, that Mr Lindsay should be able to distinguish between right and wrong.

The trial was adjourned until today.

Solicitors work at loss in courts, journal says

By Hugh Notes

Parliamentary Correspondent

Extensive government assistance to local authorities and drastic economies will be needed to avoid "appalling consequences" for ratepayers next year. That was made clear by Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, in the Commons yesterday when he spoke about the magnitude of the crisis faced by local government.

This week's *Gazette* says that according to the official figures the average bill allowed by the tax office for all cases in the High Court last year was £31.1. That included fees for solicitors, barristers and witnesses, as well as court charges.

The *Gazette* makes it clear

that these figures are not relevant to the large firms of City solicitors, who are able to charge rich business clients high fees.

Mr Lindsay was charged

with conspiring with John

Holland and did not intend how they came back to

MP seeks end to secrecy

By Geoffrey Smith

Political Staff

The Government will be asked on November 29 to ensure that no future planning inquiries shall be held in secret. That is the date for the Commons debate on a private member's motion from Mr Michael Hamilton, Conservative MP for Salisbury. That this House disapproves of the holding of planning inquiries in secret, except in the interests of defence and national security.

Mr Hamilton will not seek,

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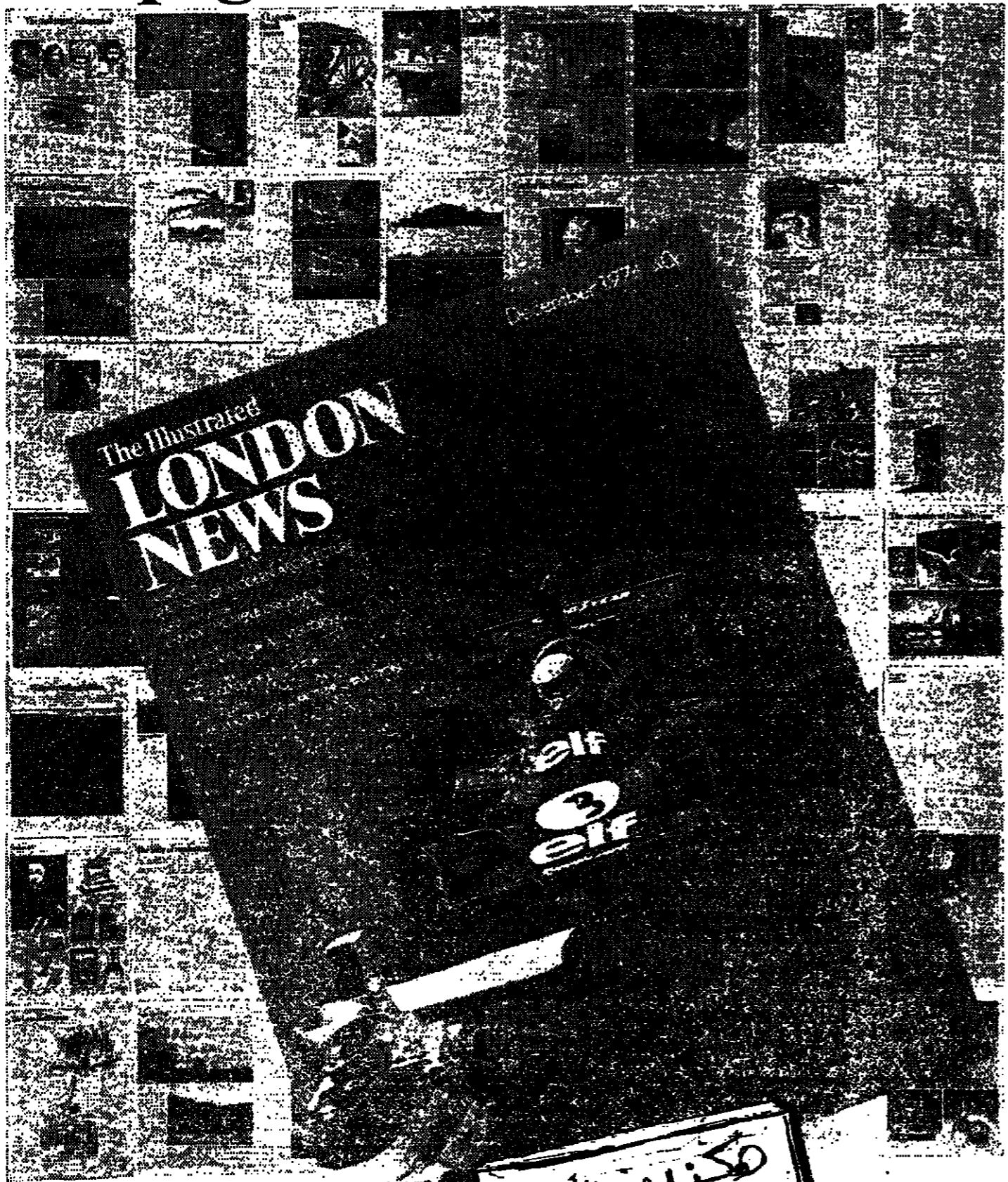
and a mass of financial advice as well. The book will be on sale next year in the bookshops, but if you are approaching retirement and open an account with us now, you will receive a free copy.

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HOME NEWS

New air rules aid safety but will alter noise areas

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent Radical changes in rules for the London air traffic control zone to be introduced in April should improve flight safety but will bring aircraft noise to areas that have not suffered it before.

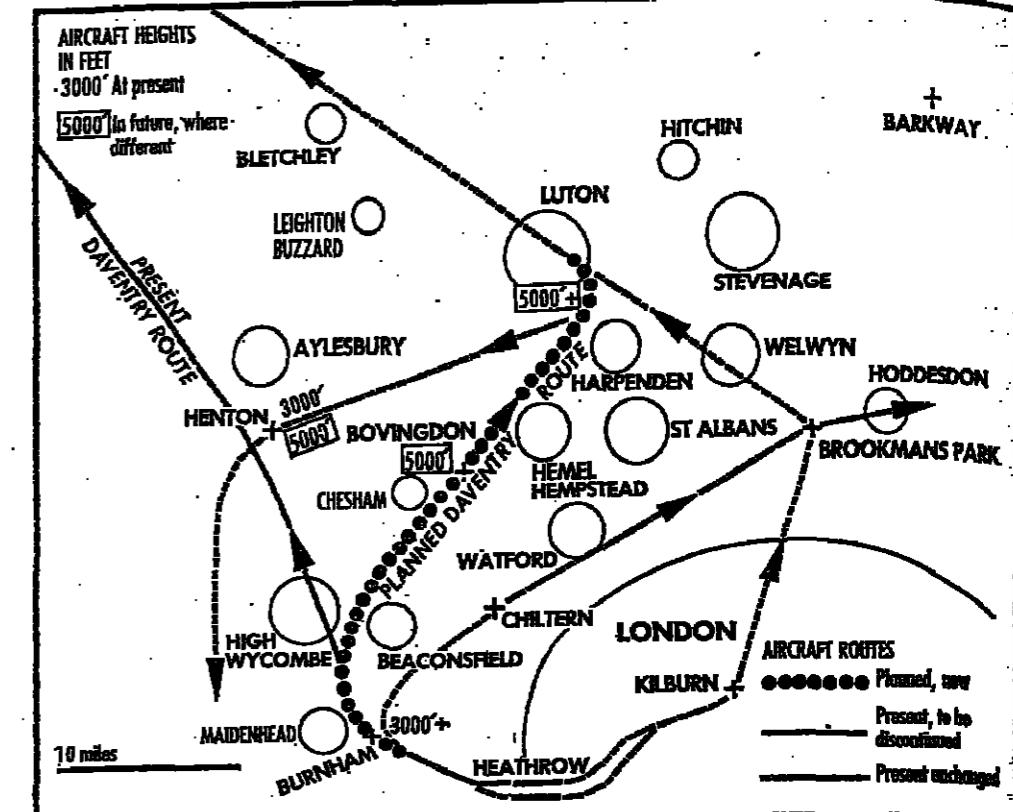
The new noise area is a corridor 25 miles long by four miles wide on the borders of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire stretching from Beaconsfield in the south to Luton in the north and taking in Chesham and Hemel Hempstead.

From April 24, that will become the main departure route from Heathrow for airliners going north on the major "amber" airway. When take-offs from London airports are to the west, normally two days out of three, it will be used by about a hundred aircraft a day, and by about 12 between 11 pm and 6 am.

Airliners using the new route will be at least 3,000 ft up as they turn on to it over the Burnham beacon, at least 5,000 ft as they pass over the Bovingdon beacon just to the north of Chesham, and above 5,000 ft by the time they reach Luton.

The change in the departure route will greatly benefit the area around High Wycombe, over which most northbound traffic from Heathrow passes.

Announcing the changes in London yesterday, the Civil



The effect of the new flight plans on areas affected by noise.

Aviation Authority said they would reduce the possibility of conflict between airliners using the amber airway between Heathrow and Daventry. At present, traffic leaving Heathrow to the west flies up the left of the airway. Traffic taking off to the east uses the right.

When the take-off direction is suddenly changed, because of a change in the wind direction, airliners in transit have to cross over the airway, endangering traffic. Under the

revised scheme, all departing flight will use the right of the airway, joining airliners leaving Gatwick, and those crossing the country from airports on the Continent.

The CAA said yesterday that the new scheme had been under consideration for two and a half years, during which time aviation interests, noise and environmental groups and local authorities had been consulted through the Department of Trade, which had agreed to the changes.

A further important change to the London terminal will be introduced in April. The lower limit of 2,500 ft in height within the area in which light and general aircraft would have to fly will plan with air traffic control. At present, such aircraft can fly at heights up to 50,000 ft without a flight plan. There is an obvious danger of conflict with the 2,000 traffic aircraft that pass through area each day.

Thousands of jobs waiting for graduates

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

There are thousands of jobs for graduates, despite the economic crisis. But students are not applying for them, and when they do some are being turned away because they are underqualified themselves, a careers conference in London was told yesterday.

Mr Christopher Priddle, careers adviser at the Polytechnic of the South Bank, London, said he was finding nothing like the gloom that politicians were expressing. He was speaking at a conference to launch a new series of guides to careers for graduates.

"We were waiting for cancellations and reductions in employers' recruitment schemes, but they have not come about," he said. "Politicians say there is an economic crisis, but our order books are full. Hundreds of firms like British Leyland, ICI, Shell, Ford, and Rolls-Royce are still looking for graduates."

Some were having to push graduates up too fast because there was a shortage. They were also looking for students in polytechnics and students on Higher National Diploma courses. The Standing Conference of University Appointments Services had hundreds of jobs available for graduates.

But students were bad at filling up forms.

Mr Michael Rines, author of one of the guides on marketing and sales, said: "The problem starts at school, where kids are not taught how to sell themselves and how to lay out an examination answer attractively."

One graduate applying for a job had written to a firm saying: "Dear Sir, I am a graduate and I would like a job. Yours sincerely . . ." Careers guides for graduates (Symphony Publishing Ltd, Windsor Street, London, W1G, 3HG, free).

Colonel Brooks replied: "Not sexual pleasure; pleasure."

Questioning Colonel Brooks about the girl crew on his boat, Mr Eastham asked: "You expect them to obey you instantly?"

Colonel Brooks: "Yes."

In relation to your sexual pleasure you also expect instant obedience? — Certainly not.

The colonel agreed that he told the girls: "I am in com-

Colonel denies he gained pleasure from giving pain

Lieutenant-Colonel John Elliott Brooks, aged 64, who told a High Court jury on Tuesday that he liked smacking girls' bottoms, denied yesterday that he gained pleasure from inflicting pain on them. He was concluding his evidence after being in the witness box for four and a half hours.

He admitted having spanked half a dozen women at his flat, another half-dozen on his boat and "one or two after hunting." He had used a whip perhaps once or twice, but there was no violence or considerable pain involved.

Spanking is only done to someone who likes it or is enjoying the fun", Colonel Brooks said. "Of course there is some pain but a lot of people enjoy that."

Colonel Brooks, of Carlyle Mansions, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, a solicitor, is suing IPC Newspapers Ltd and Michael O'Flaherty, claiming damages for libel in an article written by O'Flaherty alleging that the colonel trapped Miss Susan Carr, aged 19, on his cabin cruiser, ordered her to strip, and spanked her bare bottom. The newspaper denies libel and pleads justification, saying that the article is true and fair comment on a matter of public interest.

During cross-examination on the second day of the hearing yesterday, Mr Michael Eastham, QC, for the newspaper, asked Colonel Brooks: "Do you obtain sexual pleasure by putting your hand up a woman's skirt when she is not wearing either shorts or knickers?"

Colonel Brooks replied: "Not sexual pleasure; pleasure."

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In brief

Detective sent perjury trial

Det Sergeant Grant, aged 32, of Alexandra Ashford, Middlesex, was committed to the Central Criminal Court on bail in the £1,000 from Bow Street magistrate yesterday, charged with attempting to pervert course of justice in Oct 1969, by fabricating evidence in the prosecution of Arthur under the Dangerous Drug Act.

He is also accused of making false statements in court proceedings against three people.

Banned driver jailed

Albert Haywood, aged 37, Trinity Road, Whetstone, Hert, banned 11 times from driving since 1964, was jailed for two years for the offence, including 18 months.

25 solicitors sought

West Midlands County Council, based in Birmingham, advertising for 25 solicitors totalling about £1 a year.

Makinen wins

Timo Makinen, of Finland, and his British co-driver, Liddon, won the Lombard Rally, which finished in yesterday. Pat Moss Co. won the women's award.

Dearer mortgages

New council mortgages Bromley will rise to a rate of 12 per cent from next month. Existing borrowers will pay a new rate from next March.

Prisoner surrenders

A prisoner surrendered yesterday after barricading himself in his cell at Armley prison. Leeds, for 24 hours in protest against a decision to transfer him to another prison.

TUC reform plans in government programmes

The following circular on collective bargaining and the social contract was issued yesterday by the TUC to all its affiliated unions.

Since Congress at Brighton in September adopted the general committee's report Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract, the election of a Labour government with a working majority has been the focus of the policies advocated by congress has been warmly welcomed in all sections of the Labour movement.

The general council's report sets out the achievements of the minority Labour Government, the first which was elected in the third week in a period of only six months. The Labour Government repealed the Industrial Relations Act and abolished the Pay Board and statutory interference with collective bargaining. An independent industrial tribunal service began its work in September. Price control was strengthened and an extra £500m allocated for food subsidies. Rents were frozen, local authority housing expanded, and authority social justice.

The Chancellor has acted in the Budget to expand the economy in Britain. Although the general council's report on collective bargaining and the social contract is an essential part of the policy of ensuring that living standards are maintained.

This is not to say that prices will not rise; indeed, real personal incomes generally will only be maintained if prices will be rising at roughly the same rate as wages.

But it is clear that there will be far better if we could guarantee prices to rise more slowly, with money wages correspondingly not going up so fast, than to have prices and wages equating with each other at a higher and higher level. Any inflationary tendency would inevitably be self-reinforcing for most trade unionists.

The maintenance of living standards was the central theme of the general council's recommendations on collective bargaining contained in the statement approved by congress. Nothing has happened since the statement made in June that while the ground work is being laid for future increases in consumption and living standards, the scope for real increases in consumption at present is limited and a central negotiating objective in the coming period will therefore be to ensure that real incomes are maintained.

This entails claiming compensation for the rise in the cost of living since the last settlement, taking account of the fact that these agreements, where they apply, will already have given some compensation for current price increases.

The question has been asked by some unions what the position will be in respect of threshold agreements after November date incorporated in many agreements.

On this point, the general council recognises that, where annual

agreements still have some time to run, some unions may seek continued protection by extension of the existing thresholds, though they equally bear in mind that the unions will need to be taken into account in calculating the principal increase.

The importance in general terms of the principal settlements is often overlooked. The general council's statement on collective bargaining and the social contract is an essential part of the policy of ensuring that living standards are maintained.

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Brandt proposal for a temporary revision of Community will be given close study by Britain

David Spanier
London Correspondent

The Government is going to study Herr Brandt's suggestion that there might be some temporary kind of division in the European Community to assist Britain and Italy because of their backward economic situation.

There was no official comment on Herr Brandt's idea, which was made in a speech in earlier this week, but Mr Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that any suggestion of the former West German Chancellor deserved careful consideration.

He added that as Herr Brandt was coming to the Labour Conference shortly, it would be possible to explore German policy more fully, and find out if Herr Brandt's idea had official backing.

While the Brandt suggestion was regarded as being made in a helpful spirit, the Government's full effort in Europe is being directed towards the process of renegotiation of the terms of entry. "We are on the road and have a schedule", Mr Hattersley said, "but there is much ground to cover and much that could go wrong."

The Government published yesterday the first of its reports on renegotiation (Document in the European Community, March-October 1974). Hattersley emphasized that it was a historical document rather than an attempt to set all the process of renegotiation which is still going on.

The main interest of the paper is that it sets out

Holy Year will show up Rome's public services

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, Nov 20.—Kidnappers released Signor Giuseppe Lucchini, the son of an Italian magnate early today, for a record ransom of between \$1m and 7,000 lire (\$1m and £43m).

Another young kidnap victim is free yesterday near Bari, said the gang of two men and two women that held him and which they wanted money "to throw" the Government. Signor Lucchini, aged 22, a student, was seized on Friday night by armed men who staged a traffic accident on a Brescian street. When he was set free he may be wore a large bandage over a head wound and was in shock, the police said.—UPI.

Increasing fears are being expressed over the possible ecological and health hazards to which Rome will be subjected in Holy Year.

A conference yesterday heard a report which described the likely results of a huge influx of pilgrims on a city already lacking many elementary public services. It is not expected that between six and eight million people will come to the city in the course of next year.

Each day there will be an average of between 70,000 and 100,000 visitors in the city, the population, it was pointed out, of a large town.

Madrid attempt to muzzle Andorra

Our Correspondent

Madrid, Nov 20

Spain is putting economic pressure on the tiny independent principality of Andorra in Pyrenees in what may be an attempt to force the Andorran authorities to silence anti-Spaniards there.

Spaniards travelling to the principality in the mountains between France and Spain are being turned back by Spanish customs officers at the border where they carry more than 3,000 euros (£23). Spaniards returning from Andorra are subjected to a thorough search by Spanish customs officials, apparently

under instructions to charge full duty on every possible item.

Contacted by telephone, a prominent merchant in Andorra la Vella, the Andorran capital, referred to the Spanish measures as "political blackmail".

Signs of Spanish displeasure became evident after November 2, when Spanish tourists jammed the building of the Andorran capital for a pop music concert which turned into an anti-France rally.

When details of the incident came to the attention of General Franco's Government, Spain sent a protest Note, to Andorra and at the same time

put the economic sanctions into effect.

Last Monday, the Andorran Government published an official statement, drafted by its parliament, the Council of Elders, regretting the "lamentable acts of hostility towards persons or institutions of a neighbouring country, in this case Spain".

It added that the Andorran people "regret, condemn and lament moral violence in the form of attacks against persons, institutions or symbols of friendly countries, regardless of ideological motivation". But apparently the Andorran statement was not enough

AID AND LIBERATION.

Many European governments, international organisations and churches have sent aid to the liberated areas of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea Bissau. They funded schools and clinics.

They helped grow food and set up village co-operatives. They accepted that in what may be an "awkward" political situation there remained a distinct humanitarian need.

No help at all came from the British Government and precious little from British charities.

Today Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust, the International Exchange Fund and War on Want have published a report on the humanitarian and development needs of Southern Africa, and how the liberation movements are attempting to meet these needs.

Aid in conflict



The report, Aid in Conflict, urges that Britain gives assistance to the people caught up in these wars: the civilians, the refugees, the casualties. It also shows that the focus of war is shifting to Rhodesia, South-West Africa and South Africa. It explores why the people there should be helped, and it tries to resolve the doubts the British public may have about working through liberation movements to help this increasingly troubled region. We ask you to read Aid in Conflict so that you can decide for yourself. But please don't ignore this issue. It won't go away.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

Please send me _____ copies of Aid in Conflict (50p inclusive of postage and packing). I enclose a donation of £_____. To help continue our campaign against world poverty.

War On Want

407 CALENDAR ROAD, LONDON NW1 2EE
SCOTTISH WAR ON WANT, 212 EAST STREET, GLASGOW G1 1AZ

Italians are beginning to have doubts about their ruling class

Moro Cabinet given only short-term credit

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Nov 20

The fact that Signor Moro could formally accept the task today of leading a new government as in itself taken to be cause for some relief. But Italy's longest interregnum has ended—in the phrase of a leading commentator—with the extension of credit to the governing Christian democrats on only a short-term basis.

The reason for this more severe approach towards the behaviour of the politicians is that the ruling class as a whole, and the Christian Democrats in particular, are for the first time being judged with some objectivity.

That the new Government can count, at the outset, on a degree of benevolence is due, as the Turin *La Stampa* points out, to the "universal fears for the wellbeing of the republic".

At the same time, the Christian Democrats who have controlled the country for the last quarter of a century, have this weekend suffered their third serious setback in a row.

The old tradition of invincibility went in May when they failed in their attempt to repeal the divorce law. They went on to a poor result in the Sardinian regional elections, and on Sunday, in local govern-

ment elections, lost ground to the Communists and Socialists in a manner which has alarmed them.

Public opinion has thus been stimulated by two considerations. The first concerns the ability of the country to emerge from its deep political and economic crisis. The politicians hardly did well for themselves by keeping the country without a government for the longest period since the foundation of the republic.

The second consideration is that the ruling party is not what it was and will certainly never be again. This raises the question of what could happen once Christian Democracy is seen to have lost its old hegemony.

The Communist newspaper *L'Unità* states today that the Christian Democrats must understand that the Italian people have indicated the need for a change of course.

L'Unità has said as much scores of times in the past; it may now

be true.

A striking—and painful—illustration of the change is the rejection of a film sanctifying Christian Democracy and the late Alcide de Gasperi, Italy's best post-war Prime Minister. The irony is that the film marked a return to the

cinema of Roberto Rossellini, a great director of the past when he was dealing with the weak and the poor. In supporting the powerful, he has simply, and unwittingly, spotlighted the Christian Democratic dilemma.

It is estimated that if the results of the local government elections were repeated in a national election, the Christian Democrats would lose a million

votes and 40 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.

The Government itself scarcely has a fresh look. The local government elections confirmed the shift leftward in the country but Signor Moro has not moved his party even a shade to the left.

The Republicans are his only allies and they are not a left-wing party. Had he wanted to make the choice, and make it plain, he could have invited the Socialists into government and excluded the Social Democrats. Instead, he has left both of them outside but will rely on their votes.

It is true to say that Signor Moro is the most respected of the Christian Democratic leaders and equally true that Signor Ugo La Malfa, the Republican leader, is the most respected of the active lay politicians.

These two men, the first in by no means the best of health and the second now in his seventies, will have to face two separate set of problems: the economic crisis, and the purely Italian crisis of the apparent end of long-lived system of conduct politics. It is quite clear that an essentially weak government cannot be expected to solve such huge issues.

In private industry, there was little enthusiasm for the strike movement, even in steel and engineering, where a quarter of the labour force downed tools for one to three hours. At Renault, usually in the van of nationalised industries, only 10 per cent of the workers struck for one hour.

In the words of *Le Figaro*, "If the militants were warm, the rank and file was tepid."

The unions are only too aware of this when unemployment, which took a further turn for the worse in October, puts a brake on the enthusiasm of the men for prolonged and widespread labour stoppages. The scope of the demonstrations yesterday merely preserved the unions from too great a loss of face. But they now want to get down to discussions with the Government as quickly as possible.

The stage is therefore set for negotiation. The Government itself does not wish to give the unions to the wall or force them to a real showdown, contrary to the opinion expressed by some newspapers in the last few days.

French 'national' strike a failure

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Nov 20

It is significant that today's issue of *L'Humanité*, the Communist newspaper, under the banner headlines "There were million yesterday strike" and "Demonstrations of exceptional magnitude", should end immediately afterwards: "For the CGT and CFDI (trades union organization), negotiations are more essential than ever."

The fact is that if yesterday's demonstrations in Paris and throughout the country were the most impressive since 1968, a failure. Even in the public services, where it was observed to the tune of between 50 and 80 per cent, public transport, which is the usual barometer of such strike action, was never completely paralyzed at any stage.

In private industry, there was little enthusiasm for the strike movement, even in steel and engineering, where a quarter of the labour force downed tools for one to three hours. At Renault, usually in the van of nationalised industries, only 10 per cent of the workers struck for one hour.

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Bomb explosion at home of Hamburg judge

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Hamburg, Nov 20.—A bomb exploded at the house of a West German judge today in the latest incident of what police suspect is a planned wave of terror by the Baader-Meinhof urban guerrilla group.

The bomb went off in the back yard of the home of Judge Geert Ziegler, who has presided at trials of several Baader-Meinhof sympathizers. There were no casualties.

Judge Ziegler has been under police protection for 10 days since another judge, West Berlin Chief Justice Guenther von Drenkmann, was shot dead in his home.—UPI.

January, and a variable premium to bring the minimum livestock price for producers up to £18 a cwt now and almost £22 in January.

The intervention system, under which beef is taken off the market and stored when prices fall below the intervention price, will provide a floor for the market price for cattle.

The variable premium, which

British funds and added to the present fixed premium, will bring a higher floor to the total price received by the farmer.

Sir Henry Plumb, president of the NFU, said the introduction of a firm floor price vindicated the union's activity of the past few months.

Average cattle market prices

issued by the Meat and Livestock Commission yesterday were above the intervention level. So, although Mr Peart has accepted the principle of intervention in Britain, after months of implacable opposition to it, there may be no need to use it.

Its existence, however, will give beef producers the confidence that they have lacked for much of the year.

The Meat and Livestock Commission said that the average price of fat cattle on the first two days of this week was £15.51 a cwt.

This was £1.31 higher than a week earlier and best-quality animals were now making as much as £21.

Leading article, page 15

Farmers hail beef 'breakthrough'

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

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OVERSEAS

Food and energy crises linked with mutual defence pact in Ford-Tanaka summit talks

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Nov 20

Japanese and American leaders, who had summit talks in Tokyo today, decided that their mutual defence pact would prove superfluous unless they also formed an alliance to combat problems of food and energy which are emerging as the real new threats to their security.

Summing up the two rounds of political discussions between President Ford and Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the Japanese Prime Minister, Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, told journalists tonight that Mr Ford was more than pleased by the results of his historic visit to Japan, the first by an American head of state.

"We came to a general understanding that security in this present age cannot be confined to military matters but cooperation between Japan and the United States in the fields of energy and food represent a new positive dimension of security which must be added to the already established military alliance," Dr Kissinger said.

He rejected suggestions that Japan and the United States have come to an understanding to carve out areas of influence to obtain resources. But he made it clear that President Ford has spent much of his time in Tokyo attempting to persuade a hesitant Japanese Government to join the American proposal for a consolidation of oil consuming nations.

The Secretary for State went on to claim that the Japanese Government supports his plan to attain solidarity among the industrialized oil-consuming

nations before they negotiate with the producers.

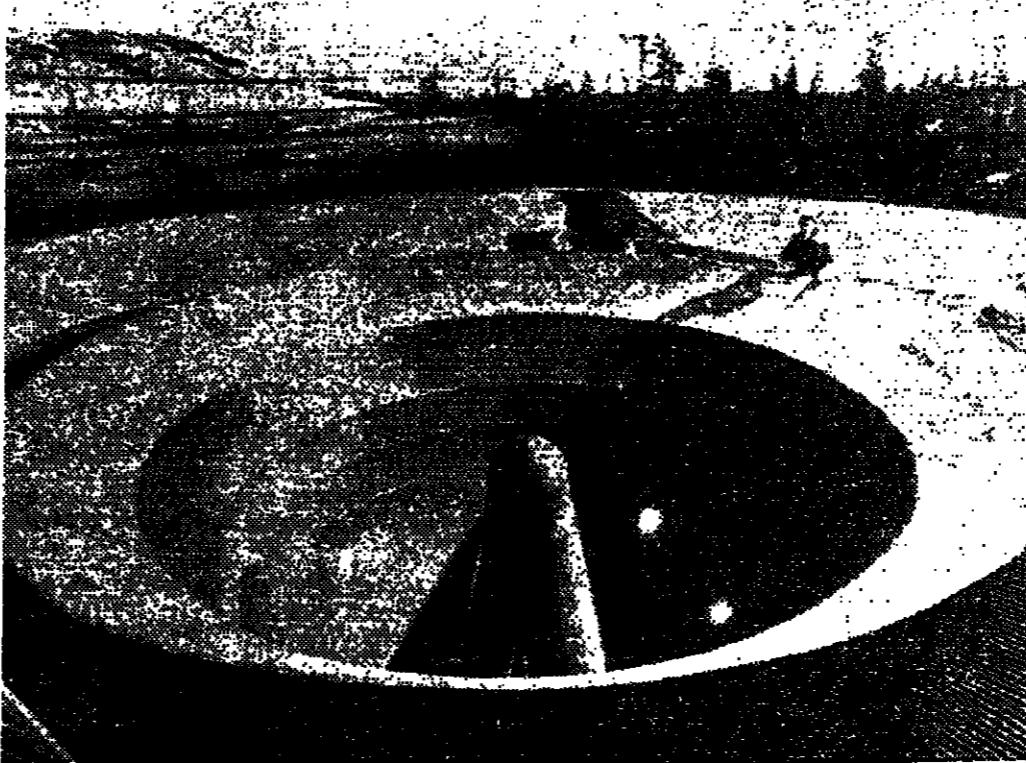
The vague assertion, which was made after the second and final round of discussions between President Ford and Mr Tanaka today, is surprising in that the Japanese Government has consistently shied away from any plan which could harm Japan's newly established ties with the Middle East.

However, Dr Kissinger indicated that while President Ford was left with the impression that Japan has agreed to cooperate in a multinational approach to solve the energy crisis in principle, Mr Tanaka pointed out that Japan is not prepared to cut back on oil imports as one of the measures proposed by the Americans.

Citing the positive side of an otherwise mundane and ceremonial visit, Dr Kissinger said: "I think that the approach that was taken towards the question of energy and the question of food and the realization of interdependence of a world economy and a world political structure, has given us considerable scope."

The Soviet Foreign Ministry said that Reuters was a British news agency, with headquarters in London, and therefore should not be allowed to cover a bilateral United States-Soviet meeting, according to a White House spokesman.

The White House submitted the name of the correspondent, Mr Lars-Erik Nelson, aged 33, to the Soviet Union, with those of 69 other American correspondents, after it was informed that Mr Ralph Harris, the Reuter White House correspondent, could not be admitted to the Soviet Union to cover the summit because he has a British passport. —Reuter.



Somewhere in the Soviet Union, the nose of a rocket peeps from its silo, watched by a lone technician. The photograph was issued officially.

Watergate trial to see TV recording

From Fred Emery
Washington, Nov 20

Recordings of television appearances are about to supplement the hours of playing back the tape-recorded conspiracy at the Watergate trial.

The prosecution is to introduce a videotape screening in court of the televised appearance of Mr H. R. Haldeman before the Senate Watergate committee in mid-1973.

It was a dramatic moment. With the secret White House taping system unintentionally disclosed—but with Mr Nixon refusing to surrender the tapes—Mr Haldeman, former Nixon staff chief, daringly volunteered a version of what was on some of them.

He disclosed how Mr Nixon had just asked him to "verify" by listening to them. Specifically he vociferously denounced Mr John Dean, the former President's accuser, who had claimed Mr Nixon authorized "hush money". Mr Haldeman insisted the President asserted paying blackmail "would be wrong". He is additionally charged with perjury for it.

The jury will see the television recording after hearing hours of tape recordings in which Mr Haldeman—along with the former President and Mr John Ehrlichman—tell a very different story. Indeed one tape of April 14, 1973, has Mr Nixon actually uttering the words "hush money" in describing the hundreds of thousands of dollars handed out to those original Watergate defendants.

The tapes now being played

is preparing to make to the authorities of what he supposedly has "found out".

Mr Nixon urges that Mr Dean be told that "the President thinks you've been a, you know, you've carried a tremendous load and he has, his affection and loyalty to you is just undiminished".

Mr Nixon wants a plan drawn up so that all suspects will testify along the same line. But he and Mr Ehrlichman agree to sleep on it.

Unsleeping were Mr Kleindienst, Attorney General, and the prosecutors who briefed him all that night on the desperate ramifications for all the President's men that had come to light. The roof falls in the next day, even though the President believes it will make only for "two weeks".

The most dramatic aspect of the current tapes is that—contrary to the sworn claims of Mr Ehrlichman—Mr Nixon and his men were long unaware that Mr Dean had already betrayed them by going to the prosecutors.

Mr Dean started spilling his story to prosecutors on April 2—yet here on April 14 Mr Nixon and company are still plotting how to put out a cover-up of the cover-up—they use such language themselves—and throw Mr Dean to the wolves along with Mr Mitchell, Mr Magruder and others.

Late that night Mr Nixon asks Mr Ehrlichman to see Mr Dean the next day to brief him on the sort of "disclosures" Mr Nixon A.P.

South Africa eases rules for black mineworkers

From Our Own Correspondent
Cape Town, Nov 20

In an effort to ease its dependence on foreign African labour the South African Government has eased regulations which inhibit the recruitment of urban Africans to work in the mining industry.

Until now Africans living in urban areas have been reluctant to work in the gold mines because Government regulations have obliged the mines to return the miners to African "homeland" areas once they have completed their contracts.

It has now been decided that a miner may be returned to the area from which he was recruited. As a result, the mines are hoping to attract some of the many unemployed Africans in the urban areas, particularly as starting wages have trebled in the past two years.

At present more than half the mine labour force is recruited from neighbouring countries. The disadvantage of this has

been demonstrated today with the disclosure that more than 3,000 foreign mineworkers have downed tools and demanded repatriation.

A Chamber of Mines spokesman said that Air Malawi was flying Malawian miners home in groups of 75 on a scheduled flight. At one mine, where 3,066 Malawians were on strike, the mine was not standing in the way of the men who wanted to repatriate them to their own country.

At the West Rand Consolidated gold mine, where about 2,100 demanded repatriation to Malawi at the weekend, only about 230 were still off work, according to an official Anglo American announced that arrangements were being made to send home about 100 Mozambique miners from the Western Deep Levels gold mine who were on strike after the death of one of their countrymen in a tribal clash at the weekend.

Kidnapped officer murdered by Argentine guerrillas

Buenos Aires, Nov 20.—A kidnapped army officer was shot dead by left-wing guerrillas, who held him in captivity for 10 months, as the police tried to rescue him during a fierce gun battle in a suburb of Buenos Aires, police sources said today.

At least two policemen and one guerrilla were wounded in the battle last night.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Rojas Ibarzabal was shot dead inside a lorry at Quilmes, eight miles from Buenos Aires.

He is the ninth army officer killed by the outlawed Marxist People's Revolutionary Army since the movement pledged to end its armed struggle.

The youths, members of the Peronist Youth of the Argentine Republic, occupied the "English tower" opposite a rail terminus and hung a banner proclaiming: "The Malvinas are Argentina's". They left 15 minutes later. —Reuter.

Air strikes decide battle for Vietnam base

Saigon, Nov 20.—Government infantry, supported by armoured cars and heavy air strikes, today recaptured a militia position on Saigon's northern defence line lost to the communists last May, military sources said.

They said 56 communist troops were killed in the fighting today for the loss of three Government soldiers killed.

Most of the communist casualties were caused by strikes.

Rach Gia position, some five miles south-west of the district capital of Ben Cat, was overrun in May, together with two other positions near by, since

recaptured. —Reuter.

Last world chess game postponed

Moscow, Nov 20.—The final game in the chess match between Viktor Korchnoi and Anatoly Karpov has been postponed from today until Friday. The postponement was requested by Korchnoi because of illness.

After 23 games Karpov holds a 3-2 lead in the match to decide a challenger to Bobby Fischer for the world championship. If Korchnoi wins Friday's game, the result will be decided by lot. —Reuter.

Shah of Iran leaves Moscow for home

Moscow, Nov 20.—The Shah of Iran left Moscow today for home after a three-day visit to the Soviet capital during which he had extensive talks with Soviet leaders. —Reuter.

early on the question of aid to the liberated areas of the Portuguese colonies. The author's work has been partly overtaken by events, but in Mr Burns's view liberation movements in South West Africa (Namibia) and Rhodesia could soon be creating new liberated areas.

Mr Cliffe points out that apart from the needs of the people in such liberated areas for food, education and medical care, there are also the needs of political refugees and needs of political refugees.

War on Want has given aid in the past to Fretilin projects in Mozambique. According to Mr Burns, they now hope to increase the support given to such movements.

This report by War on Want is likely to run into the same criticism which has bedevilled the World Council of

Clerides warning on moves by armed groups

From Our Correspondent
Cyprus, Nov 20

Mr Clerides, the acting President, left Nicosia for London today to brief the Archbishop Makarios on the situation in Cyprus. He sounded a warning that rival armed Greek Cypriot groups were preparing for action in view of the Archbishop's imminent return.

"I am afraid there are moves by both pro and anti-Makarios armed groups. The Government has evidence and even the names of the people involved". Mr Clerides told a press conference in Nicosia a few hours before his departure. Any resort to action by these groups "will lead Cyprus to complete destruction".

When asked why his Government did not move to disarm them, Mr Clerides said: "One cannot be arrested on the basis of intention alone".

Mr Clerides' departure came amid reports that he would seek to persuade the Archbishop to postpone his return, in order to avoid the possibility of fresh clashes on the island.

The reports added that Mr Clerides would also insist on the adoption of a common policy line in future peace negotiations with the Turkish Cypriot side.

Jailed publisher goes on hunger strike in Manila

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Nov 20

Mr Eugenio Lopez, the publisher of the *Manila Chronicle*, has been on hunger strike in his cell in Manila since Monday, members of his family announced today. They added that his wife had been denied permission to make special visits during his hunger strike or take a doctor to him.

News of Mr Lopez's hunger strike was given by Mr Steve Psinakis, an American who is married to Mr Lopez's sister. Mr Psinakis said that he had visited Mr Lopez in prison last week and that they had discussed his plans, which were designed to draw attention to the plight of the many detainees being held without trial.

Mr Psinakis added that the hunger strike, which was also being carried out by another prisoner, appeared to be having an effect. There had recently been reports from Manila that Mr Lopez has announced he will fast until he dies or is released.

Yugoslav minister's visit

By A. M. Rendel

Mr Milos Minic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, begins a two-day official visit to London on Monday, and will meet Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, for formal sessions at the Foreign Office.

Yugoslavia is as interested as any country in détente and the two ministers are certain to review the prospects of the talks on mutual balanced force reductions and the European security conference.

The present visit is particularly opportune with regard to Cyprus. Britain, as guarantor of

In brief

Chicago mayor's ex-aide jailed

New York, Nov 20.—Mr Edward G. Daley, the mayor of Chicago, has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment for mail fraud.

He had been found guilty of defrauding the city by concealing his interest in an advertising company that held contracts at O'Hare airport.

Seoul murder appeal

Seoul, Nov 20.—Mu Seung Sook, convicted of murdering the wife of President Park Chung Hee, said that he would appeal to the Supreme Court after his death sentence was upheld by the appellate court in Seoul today. Mr Mu fired pistol shots at President Park in a national day ceremony in Seoul on August 15 but missed him, killing his wife instead.

Anguilla protest

The Valley, Anguilla, Nov 20.—The Anguillians, headed by Mr Ronald Webster, the island's rebel leader, closed down operations today in protest against Britain's failure to settle the island's political status.

Croatia is one of the six constituent republics in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. —Reuter.

5,000-year-old chariot

Moscow, Nov 20.—Soviet archaeologists have uncovered in the Urals a two-wheeled chariot, dating back to about 3,500 BC and similar to those used in ancient Greece and Egypt, Tass said. Scientists believe the chariot belonged to an Aryian tribe which used to live in northern India.

Caucasus earthquake

Moscow, Nov 20.—Families were left homeless after a series of medium and light earthquakes hit the eastern Caucasus mountains last week, causing widespread damage to buildings, Tass reported today. No one was killed and people in neighbouring districts took in the homeless families.

Cricketers' escape

Delhi, Nov 20.—Alvin Kallicharran and Leonard Baichan, the West Indian cricketers, escaped serious injury last night when their car hit a traffic island in Hyderabad.

Report November 20 1974

House of Lords

med onspiracy to effect public mischief not known to law

of Public Prosecutions
ers and Others

Lord Reid, Viscount Diplock, Lord Simon of Glaisdale and Lord Kilbrandon

on criminal conspiracy to include a conspiracy to public mischief. The use of "public mischief" not in future be used in charges. And as judges new to power to create the law conspiracy to include an offence which must be a matter for trial.

Judge of Lords so held. It appeals by quashing convictions of Ian Douglas his wife, his brother, Wiflers, and his wife from Court of Appeal (*R v Times* [1974] QB 10, 19; [1974] QB 10, 19; [1974] QB 10, 19). Justice Cairns, Lord James and Sir Justice Laney, which had dismissed their appeals against conviction in indictments charging with conspiracy to effect a mischief.

Particulars of the first count that the accused had conspired to effect a public mischief by unlawfully obtaining private information from bank and building society

by false representations

and others in their em-
ploy or control were autho-
rized to receive such information.

The court held that there had so conspired

giving such information

officers of certain depart-

ments of government and local

rent by such representa-

tives Owen, QC, Mr D. P.

and Mr Ross Page for

appellants: Mr Michael

and Mr Kenneth Richard-

DUNN DILHORNE, with

Lord Kilbrandon, QC,

Ian and Stuart Without

in investigation agency.

Their work in the agency

was not disputed that infor-

mation was obtained about a bank's

by deceit. A telephone

call was made to the customer being investi-

gated account. The person

in the call would pretend to

be officer of another bank. In

the appellants obtained

actual information from

customers which might be used to

customers' detriment and

they sold to those who

them information was

obtained from a building

about a customer's account

protection case on the

information which ought not

been supplied to the appellee

obtained from the Legal Record Office and the

Court of Appeal by re-

questing that the inquiry come

from another licensing authority

concerning the name

of the owner of a

vehicle were obtained.

Information could lawfully be

if there was a reasonable

basis for the opinion

obtained, it more

about driving licences.

Court of Appeal had cer-

tainty of general

concernance. Whether the

was right in law in stating

the jury were sure that one

defendants agreed with

to do willfully deceitful

itself, agreed to pro-

and that such act would

extreme injury to the general

of the community as a

such persons who so agreed

be guilty of the offence of

to effect a public

mischief.

Ingredients of the crime of

had been judicially

on many occasions and

in R v Kamara (*The*

July 5, 1973; [1974] AC

a criminal conspiracy might

any form and it had long

stomach to attach labels to

the conspirators.

The label of "conspiracy

question was not whether

el of conspiracy to effect

mischief was an apt or

description of the conspiracy

with that the

one of the other heads

a separate class recognized

law.

Lordships attention had

drawn to any case before

jury where a person

with effecting a public

in which the charge was

a cheat and a trap. If

the court to direct the jury

the mischief to the

considering other cases in

the light of those defen-

in any case involving

mischief must be in cor-

difficulty when he had to

the jury on the law. If he

them that if they found

it might be held to have

the jury's functions and

as criminal conduct not

so regarded. On the

if it was simply left

to do what it wanted to

amounted to a public mis-

the jury might create a

ence. It was clear that in

sent state of the law, the

of "public mischief" had

to be considered diffi-

different view appeared to

held. On the demise of

Chamber the Comme-

power to declare conduct

which had not before

been so treated. In those days Parliament met but seldom and condemned itself of new and with the criminal law.

In R v Munday ([1923] 1 KB 529)

it was held that giving false information to the police with the result that they wasted their time

tended to cause public mischief and was therefore an offence. That was criticized in R v Newland ([1954] 1 Q.B. 158) by Lord Goddard, who said that it was too late to object that conspiracy to effect a public mischief was unknown to the law. But in Newland he clearly regarded the reference to public mischief as superfluous.

In R v Bailey ([1956] NILR 15), Lord MacDermott, the Lord Chief

Justice in Northern Ireland, had

criticized the reference of Mr Justice Lawrence in R v Higgins ([1951] 2 East 51) that all acts or omissions which tended to the prejudice of the community were indictable.

He said that if the dictum were taken at its face value, "not

only would one wide field of the criminal law lose all claim to certainty, but the guilt or innocence

of persons charged would

be determined by the personal

conviction of the defendant.

His Lordship's personal conviction

that branch of the law was irrational in treating as a

criminal offence an agreement to do that which if done was not a

crime; and that its irrationality became injustice if it took days of legal argument and research to

discover whether any crime had

been committed even though the facts were undisputed. His Lordship welcomed the fact that such a approach to our criminal jurisdiction was engaging the urgent attention of the Law Commission.

Lord MacDermott's approach to

the question was that branch of the law was irrational in treating as a

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PARLIAMENT, November 20, 1974.

Mr Foot seeking freedom for editors, journalists and trade unions: further talks promised

House of Commons

MR PRIOR (Lowestoft, C)—Opposition spokesman on employment asked the Secretary of State for Employment for a statement on his meeting with the national newspaper editors yesterday.

MR FOOT (Ebbw Vale, Lab)—The editors expressed to me their concern about the possible effects of a closed shop in journalism in relation to the forthcoming Bill to amend the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act. I understand to have further discussions with them soon.

MR PRIOR—There are some separate important issues involved.

There is the issue relating to the closed shop which the editors discussed with me yesterday. Why cannot he leave matters as they were? (Interruption by the hon. Member with respect to the closed shop.) (Conservative cheers.)

What evidence is there in his possession that there is any desire by journalists generally that changes in the law should now be made?

With regard to the industrial dispute taking place in the industry, the type of action chosen is clearly interfering with editorial freedom and emphasizes once more the validity of the editors' fears which they expressed to him yesterday. It seems of great public interest and importance are now being blacked.

For example, the publication of the Identikit pictures of persons wanted in connexion with the Guildford bombing have been blacked. What would the Government going to take to prevent this from happening?

Will the Government come forward with an assurance that they will protect the freedom of the press and the editorial right of each individual who has been operating in journalism over many years which have not interfered with editorial freedom. That certainly operated Odiham when we were working there.

MR GRIMOND (Orkney and Shetland, L) said he had an audience to secure the Minister of State with whom the House to deal with it on the debates when we have the Bill, that we are presenting today or tomorrow. We will have ample opportunities for discussing issues involved when the Bill is presented. (Conservative cheers.)

The other side of the convention in the House, and a good one, is that legislation should be discussed on second reading, in committee and on third reading, and that is what we proposed in relation to this Bill for all our Bills. That is the right occasion on which we should discuss the important matters of principle involved.

That is well understood by the editors and perhaps I can take the opportunity of saying that I made clear to the editors that the Bill was likely to be presented this week and that then we would have the opportunity for debate on it later.

The second question was not raised with me by the editors yesterday. Indeed, they did not ask to raise that question. If Mr Prior wished put down a question on an unadjusted dispute, he should do so. (Conservative cries of "Disgraceful".)

MR CORBETT (Hemel Hempstead, Lab)—Would he confirm that no recent decisions taken by the National Union of Journalists affecting the rights of its membership have been having any effect to alter the jurisdiction under the rules of that union over any member?

Will he confirm that members of that union previously holding associate membership were by their membership also required to obey the rules of the national executive council?

MR FOOT—The definition of associate membership was one of the questions discussed when I met the editors yesterday. They put their views and I have done what I undertook to do, to consider what they have said and then to have

fresh discussions with them, but principally with the Commons.

They did not raise the immediate question of the industrial disputes. If they had wished to do so, they would have done so, but they came to see me about the Bill.

MR GEORGE GARDINER (Reigate, C)—Opinion among working-class journalists in the media is not nearly as united as some statements by national officials might indicate. In the view of many journalists, this proposed legislation will need some change if the freedom of the written word is to be protected in this country.

As a former editor, would he agree with the proposition that the day on which a journalist becomes a censor is effectively ceases to be a journalist? (Conservative cheers.)

MR FOOT—Yes, I agree with his last view about censorship. I am glad that that provision is included in the rules and principles of the NUJ.

Mr Gardner's point is well-taken. I believe that the fears of the editors are misplaced. There are anomalies in the legislation which we can easily remove. But their fears are misplaced and their proposed remedies are unnecessary.

That is why we have to search for remedies which would be more successful and which would work successfully. That is what I am doing, not merely as a member of the Government—but also as a defender of freedom in the newspapers and in the trade union movement generally.

MR MADDEN (Sowerby, Lab)—In the past large newspaper groups such as Odiham which have been blacked. What would the Government be doing to prevent this from happening?

Will the Minister take note that when the Conciliation, Arbitration and Arbitration Service is ready, available and anxious to offer its services to resolve the dispute in the Kentish Times area?

MR FOOT—I am eager to see a resolution of the dispute, not only in the Kentish Times but in other disputes taking place in the newspapers generally. I am eager to assist in that purpose. The Conciliation and Arbitration Service will be eager to assist in the situation where there is a dispute and the best way of going about it.

SIR JOHN HALL (Wycombe, C)—At the moment editors find themselves unable to accept any material, including statements, sent to them by some who is a member of the NUJ—either a local or a national MP. Does not this mean that the use of the press by which MPs are now denied to them? (Conservative cheers.)

It is not only undesirable but an unnecessary and pernicious action to support of an industrial dispute? (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

MR FOOT—I would certainly have a vote unless they could be sure that the necessary reforms in the rating system would be made.

The aim must be to ensure, by domestic rate relief, that no householder faced excessive rate increases whether he lived in town or country, whether the council was Labour or Conservative. He

should take account of which he refers before I commented upon it.

I would also say, in the interests of the public, the newspapers published as quickly as possible and in the interests of the journalists, that it is right to keep separate the general question of what the provisions are to be in our legislation—an important matter from the industrial dispute is that it is in the newspaper industry, and the action that may be taken in connexion with that industrial dispute.

If the two subjects are muddled up together, it will make more difficult a solution of the dispute and more difficult the long-term solution on the basis of demands that we want to secure. The approach I have made to the industrial dispute question is the best one in the interests of all concerned.

Of course, if the House wishes to ask questions about it, I am entitled to do so. I certainly urge the House to try to keep the two matters separate because that is the way to get the newspapers printed as quickly as possible and the general working in the newspaper industry back to normal.

MR FOOTT—I am happy to point out that I am not the only one who is a distinguished contributor to the press, that he would not countenance any legislation which impinged upon the right of an editor to engage outside contributors. (Conservative cheers.)

MR FOOT—That last question which Mr Grindon put to me is a question which was put to me by the editors when they came to see me, although they did not ask that I or the Government should take any legislative action about it. They merely asked that we should take note of it.

There was little time in category. (Conservative interruptions.)

The editors themselves were not asking for the Government to take any action about dealing with contributors to the papers.

As I told the editors, what we are doing is in respect not to myself but to others. What we are seeking to do, as in so many matters in industrial relations, is to restore the situation to what existed before 1971. (Conservative cries of "Progress".)

So disastrous were the reactionary consequences of the legislation introduced in 1971 and 1974, that it is progress to restore matters to the pre-1971 situation. (Labour cheers.)

SIR DEREK WALKER-SMITH (East Hertfordshire, C)—Will the minister undertake that the views of individuals on industrial relations, affecting people in its membership have been taken into account when the legislation is introduced?

MR FOOT—There was no statutory requirement for a closed shop in the pre-1971 legislation. There was no statutory requirement for a closed shop in the legislation that

was introduced.

MRS WINIFRED EWING (Moray and Nairn, Scot Nat) asked the Secretary of State for the Environment to announce his proposals for giving relief from sewerage charges to the occupiers of properties not connected to public sewers.

MR DENIS HOWELL, Under Secretary, said in a written reply Yes. As I told the House on November 14, the Secretary of State sought the advice of the National Water Council on this matter, and we are grateful to them for their assistance.

The Secretary of State and the Secretary of State for Wales have now decided to give relief to domestic properties amounting to 50 per cent of the general service charge. In their view this strikes a reasonable balance, and takes account of the fact that the general service charge on other services, besides sewerage, is as pollution control for the protection of rivers and surface water drainage from which everyone benefits.

The relief will take effect from the beginning of the next financial year. It will be a small contribution with the water authorities and the local authority associations to put the necessary arrangements in hand.

MR MURRAY—Mrs Ewing has certain things about me which I must disclose but the consumer is better served by numbers—(Laughter)—and there safety in numbers in all matters including this.

This is strictly not a matter for the Lord Advocate although he could take an initiative. It is a matter in which the issues are not clear and I am open-minded. There

are arguments for and against.

MR BUCHANAN (Glasgow, Springburn, Lab)—Has he received representations from either branch of the legal profession or the police about the profession of Dr John Macmillan and others practising euthanasia in hospitals over which they have some control?

MR MURRAY—That raises a matter going a little beyond the question. Crown Counsel, on my behalf have studied the book with care and I have read the relevant passages myself.

On the top of one page, the author has made vague and unspecific claims to have "coped" with one or two cases of euthanasia in England, he does not claim to have done the same in Scotland and I am satisfied that he is not giving any evidence of euthanasia in Scotland.

MR MURRAY—Is this not a way in which the Lord Advocate is almost denying his own function as a person of high office whose powers are not laid down or limited in any way.

Is it not a matter for the public purpose where three lawyers are involved where one would do? Has the Lord Advocate read the recent speech of the Attorney General in touch with moves in the English branches of the legal profession?

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MR STALLARD (Camden St Pancras, North, Lab)—Among the minority community there are great fears, cynicism, anxiety, and uncertainty as to the results of the elections for the Convention are already known and that the outcome of that Convention is already known.

MR IAN GILMOUR, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Chesham and Amersham, C)—I hope Mr Rees is right in his evident belief that to leave virtually all the procedural decisions to the Convention is likely to make it less bogged down in procedure than if he gave it rather more definite guidance than he has done.

Some preparatory work, it will,

of course, be for the Convention to decide in due course to what use it will put this preparatory work.

After the elections, it will be for the Convention to deliberate about the future of Government of Northern Ireland with a view to reaching broadly-based agreement and to work its concluding programme to Parliament, for it is with Parliament, the ultimate decision rests.

A heavy responsibility rests on the people of Northern Ireland and on those they will elect to the Constitutional Convention—the responsibility of reaching agreement with each other. It is this agreement which Northern Ireland needs and the Government will be asked to make to the Convention that the most widespread acceptance of any proposal put forward are those likely to command the most widespread acceptance throughout the community in Northern Ireland. It is on this acceptance that peace and stability in Northern Ireland depends.

Elections for the Convention will take place early next year, and I shall still give about a month's notice of the actual date. In advance of the election I intend also to announce the name of the chairman of the Convention.

Her Majesty's Government will provide the Constitutional Convention with factual information and other assistance including a secretariat. There is, however, bound to be undesirable delay if all the arrangements for the Convention have to be made up after the elections have been held, and arrangements will be made to the secretariat on a basis to be confirmed later so that they can undertake

the introduction of some modified Bill of Rights, to which the Front Benches have paid lip service in order to assure some of the fears of the minority population of the Six Counties.

MR REES—I would hope that as the plan for this Convention unfolds it is not an assembly but a place where the people of Northern Ireland can meet together. Its role will play some part in assuring the outcome which I accept is added to by the current murders in the Province.

On the question of a Bill of Rights, when I introduce the next discussion paper, the last one, it would be fair to look at some of the aspects of that.

It is not possible to have a Bill of Rights in the short run. I hope the Gardner Committee report will be out soon.

MR MOLYNEAUX (South Ayrshire, C)—Will Mr Rees accept our assurance that we will do everything we can to bring about the restoration of law and order in our Province? Will he confirm my impression that the arrangements he proposes to make to the Convention are to facilitate progress and will be subject to confirmation when the Convention meets? Will he bear in mind the necessity for early elections so that exists there?

MR REES—I do confirm that this is preparatory work. There is a need to take on staff.

MR FITT (Belfast, West, SDLP)—In the political vacuum which exists in Northern Ireland there is a mood of deep depression and despair in the knowledge that many of the people who will be contesting the Convention elections are now elected representatives to the Assembly.

Would he find it possible to call together political representatives, as they are elected representatives, in advance of the Convention elections? There are certain number of seats reserved for the Assembly which will be contested at the Convention elections.

It is not possible to have a Bill of Rights in the short run. I hope the Gardner Committee report will be out soon.

MR REES—I would hope that what matters is that people of Northern Ireland should accept the changes together. I would certainly be prepared to meet leaders of the parties in Northern Ireland to talk about any matter.

Outlook grim: Mr Crosland expects to be unpopular with ratepayers next spring

MR CHANNON, Opposition spokesman on the environment (Southend, West, C), opening a debate on the rates, said the real cost of teachers' salaries had become increasingly heavy as that taxation was being paid out too narrow a base. Those who paid for local services were too few compared with those who received them.

Urgent reform was required. The timetable for reform was far too slow. The Secretary of State's flat rate domestic relief introduced in March had in many ways made the rating situation much worse than it was before. An average increase in domestic rates of approximately 35 pence diagnosis an astonishing variation and many obvious unfairnesses.

What worried people was what was going to happen next year. Horrifying reports had come in from local authorities. Essex estimated that the cost of teachers' salaries was 40,000 per year, and local authorities had to find 40 per cent of that.

The cost of teachers' salaries was £1,400m last year, and local authorities had to find 40 per cent of that by transferring that cost to the Exchequer, there would be a worthwhile saving to all ratepayers, whether householders, commercial, small shopkeepers or industrialists. The Government must do that, or the whole rating system could break down.

He would not be able to say how much the government was proposing to give for next year, or what increase he was ready to make in next year's growth.

Never before had there been such a major rate debate in the middle of negotiations.

He was not impugning the motives of the Opposition. After all, as honourable men, were not bound by the words of Mrs Margaret Thatcher (South, Finchley, C).

I recognise that if this was done it would be inflationary. But it would not add one penny to public spending.

It is the only way to keep local authorities from being placed on the tax-payers who were ratepayers.

If it is done, it would be a means to be found for ensuring that local authorities passed on the benefits of the system which shows out in the otherwise murky light of a hard-fought election campaign, as a shining example of political moral purity, along with the even purer 9.5 per cent.

It would mean the trade unions keeping within the social contract, to keep local government salary and wage demands within reasonable proportions.

If the increases we are to have in the rating system are to be kept within the social contract, we must approach the rating system with the right attitude.

It would be against the people to transfer the costs of the rating system to the Exchequer, and it would surely be possible, in real terms, for local government spending in 1975-76 not to exceed the level of the previous year, or, at any rate, to exceed it by a small amount.

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Revie told how hard the going can be

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent

England 9

If a rose is a rose, is a rose a goal? It is a goal. How much we needed them to score at Wembley last night when neither England nor Portugal could break that proved to be a stalemate in their European Championship match.

Now England have three points from two games; with one more away tie yet to come against Cyprus, in February and April, and against these same Portuguese and Czechoslovakia. By failing to win last night, England have made things harder for themselves and for that has no one else to blame but themselves.

It was a long day's journey into a wet night: a match of low level negatives. The Portuguese, having now been beaten easily by Switzerland, came to Wembley with only one object in mind and that was to end with a draw. They set about it from the beginning with some hard tackling which soon upon no terminology; by massed defence; and by adopting offside tactics, a trap which England time after time failed to spring with that high, forward lob.

The first half saw a series of close saves at the Portuguese end and as Damas made two or three last ditch saves—one in particular at the 20th minute when somehow or other, with an elastic leap, he kept out a close-range shot—Damas, after a mere dozen touches, on the right flank between Bell, Brooking and Chammon. Five minutes from the end, too, he denied the hard-working probing Chammon a shot which would have come from Washington's header to a cross by Thomas. But the quick challenge by Damas smothered the England man at the last stride.

The Portuguese, with Arthur, O'Connor and Allard forming a hard core inside their penalty area, achieved what they set out to do, which was to stop England. It worked but it all proved something of a yawn as most of the ball had to become more syllabic and as inconveniences as waves washing the pebbles of a beach. On a night splattered with rain, a whole series of implications and significances lay just below the surface.

Mr. Dore, Revie, had got off on the right foot at the end of the match against Czechoslovakia with a grateful sigh, must now realize how hard the going can be at international level, especially at Wembley, where the weather comes this day, it seems, merely to survive with little idea of victory. Secondly, if anyone has to bear the blame for last night's failure it



Thomas and Clarke make claims for a goal that the referee refused.

met his squarely with the midfield man. Brooking and Todd, to win to the European football union (UEFA) asking for clarification of a decision to suspend Tommy Smith, for two European matches because of his "anti-sporting behaviour" in the Cup Winners' Cup match against Ferencvaros in Budapest on November 5.

Towards the end of the game

Smith fell to the ground and later claimed that he had been hit by a bottle thrown from the crowd. The French referee said at the time that the bottle did not hit Smith, but, in suggesting an injury, forced the understandable suspicion of the press box on the opposite side of the pitch. I saw a bottle flung from the terraces, and others were thrown near the "trainers" dug-out, but it was impossible to be sure who threw it. Smith, like the captain and club officials, were convinced he was though they decided not to make an official protest, because the referee was on the spot.

Although Liverpool have at no time expressed any desire to be involved in the matter, it is clear that the incident occurred so late in the game to have any bearing on the result—a defeat for Liverpool—they will want to know why Ferencvaros, who otherwise seem good marks, will not be hard discs.

Clarke, who otherwise had

an excellent night, was

able to play their defensive tactics. It was up to us to find a way round it and we didn't.

"We were not over confident. I stressed to the players we had to pressurize the opposition to get a forecast a hatful of goals. I only said the Portuguese didn't play well again Switzerland.

It was almost from the start

that the tragic machinery of the night began to function—from the moment of the running in of a goal instead of lofting high passes into the area. All this left England's football sadly inhibited as attack tried to fight its damp way through a fast moving defence that was clearly in positional play and short passing.

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ORT



The Mayor of this town—and the groundsman, Clem Jones in action at the Wooloogaoba yesterday after he had dismissed the man in charge.

Oydon on casualty list but MCC decide against replacement

ohn Woodcock
et Correspondent
and Nov. 20
ing a ball at practice here
uring David Lloyd, who
encouragingly went against
Wales on Friday, trau-
matically lost his right
hand, although Alec
manager of the MCC team,
entirely rule out Lloyd's
of being fit for the first
atch, starting in nine days,
is any injury which usually
days to heal.

Damn short of runs and
in his back the party finds
in bat at a bad time,
been decided, however, to
chance on this and not to
or a replacement. Anyon
out later this week could
play in the Test match
or five days of his
and by the time of the

Test, in Perth on December
14 and Edrich should both
fully recovered.

and are not alone in their
ns. Judging from the look of
Wooloogaoba ground, it is
the most sensible thing to
the incident here and
play the first Test match
here rather than Brisbane.
one, thou, who knows me
Jones, the city's lord mayor,
ground's astonishing powers
over, such move is un-
likely. The trustee of the "Gabb"
man Jones has recently
the groundsman and taken
himself the sole responsibility
ording us with a pitch fit
against Queensland on Fri-
day a rather more important
against Australia on Friday

was to be seen at the

ground this morning was barely
credible. In the middle, wearing
shorts, gum boots and a white pit
helmet, was the mayor himself,
face red with anger and exertion.
steadily rain turned last night into a
fierce storm, which made pulp of
the covers. This morning, helped
by sun and wind and a fisherman
looking for port-time work, Mr
Jones was doing what he could to
dry them out. What used to be a
primitive Test ground is now as well
on the way to becoming a major sporting complex, under Mr
Jones's inspiration, though there
is still a lot of work to be done on
new stands if the drills are to be
done. The workers finished
with the Test to start on

Mr Jones, a staunch socialist,
has been mayor for 13 years. He is
55. In a supervisory capacity he
has something to do with the pre-
paration of Brisbane's last three
Test wickets.

No one in Australian cricket—he
is a former member of the Board of
Controls—is indifferent to him.
Some have shied away from calling
to Brisbane, or at any rate the
"gabba," so long as he is the
dominant figure. Others see him as
a driving force behind a fast-grow-
ing circuit. Spin bowlers see him as
a menace for keeping too much
on the pitches he prepares.
Australian batsmen, though, are
patiently and with no lack of con-
viction, he said that, weather per-
mitting, the test pitch would be
green, though not as hard as he
would like. It would be perfectly
good, he added.

It might help to imagine that
England were playing Australia in
the first Test match of a series, not
the second. The will be fit to play
against Queensland. Lloyd being
injured, it is doubly important that
Edrich should be.

was to be seen at the

Lee aiming to hurt and intimidate

Nov. 20.—The Australian
bowler, Dennis Lillie, is
limited that he intends
to bowl when bowling
on much that the batsman
want to see my mind."

He said: "I appreciate from bat-
man's point of view that disconcerting
a bowler can be. I think
most batsmen are the same. When
I'm running in to bowl a bouncer
I'm telling myself the whole way in:
'This has to be fast and I mean
bloody fast.' Not many batsmen
recover from a really good
bounce.

The hook's subtitle comes from a

comment made to Lillie by Lock,

who captained Western Australia—

is to be seen at the

Lillie's state side—after coming to

live in Australia. Lock called out to

Lillie: "Come on you're like a
bipper old fart in an attempt to
get his last bowler to move more
from one fielding position
to another.

These statements must make
sobering reading for England's
batsmen, who face Australia in the
first Test match here on November
29. And while the will be fit to play
against Queensland, Lloyd being
injured, it is doubly important that

Edrich should be.

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the second. The will be fit to play
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was to be seen at the

Tickets for the 1975 Minor Counties championship

19-Southill Park—Berkshire v Cambridgeshire	7-Sidmouth—Devon v Dorset
20-Mansfield—Shropshire v Durham	8-Bedfordshire—Buckinghamshire v Oxfordshire
21-Dunstable—Bedfordshire v Shropshire	9-Huntingdon—Cambridgeshire v Northamptonshire
22-Northumbrian—Northumbrian v Lancashire	10-Cornwall v Berkshire
23-Lancashire v Suffolk	No venue—Somerset II v Shropshire
24-Yorkshire—Lancashire v Lancashire	11-Chesham—Buckinghamshire v Suffolk
25-Oxford (Morris Motors)—Oxfordshire	No venue—Lancashire v Cambridge
26-Plymouth—Devon v Berkshire	12-Evesham—Gloucestershire v Devon
27-Shropshire—Hertfordshire v Warwickshire	13-South Devon—Cornwall
28-Suffolk—Norfolk	14-Albion—Somerset—Berkshire
29-Yorkshire—Lancashire v Lancashire	15-Worcester—Buckinghamshire v Shropshire
30-Northumbrian—Norfolk	16-Wimborne—Dorset
31-Staffordshire—Berkshire v Devon	17-Cheshire—Buckinghamshire v Cheshire
August	18-Wiltshire—Berkshire v Wiltshire
1—Pembroke—Somerset II v Cornwall	19-Bedfordshire—Buckinghamshire v Bedfordshire
2-Bedfordshire—Buckinghamshire v Bedfordshire	20-Ashford—Kent v Kent
3-Cambridge—Norfolk	21-Bedfordshire—Norfolk
4-Victoria—Cambridgeshire v Cambridgeshire	22-Bedfordshire—Norfolk
5-Cambridge—Norfolk	23-Bedfordshire—Norfolk
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BOOKS

Nourished in dark soil

Samuel Johnson

By John Wain

(Macmillan, £4.95)

John Wain is 49, with more than 25 years of fiction, poetry, criticism and teaching behind him but this appears to be his first biography. It is absolutely first-class, wonderfully sympathetic both to its great subject and to "the intelligent general reader" for whom it is written; by turns moving, exuberant and opinionated, never dull. "There is no research in this book," writes Professor Wain when it is done, by which he means that he has synthesised, rather than augmented, the discoveries of Johnson scholarship over the last few decades, and done so within the framework of biographical narrative, enriched by brief critical accounts of Johnson's writings and a deeply read sense of eighteenth century England: all this in fewer than 400 pages.

Samuel Johnson could even be enjoyed by readers who have never read any Johnson, and no one still in that state of innocence will wish to remain there after reading it. There will be few outside the campuses for whom it will not provide some delights and surprises, for it is Johnson's contention that, even now, 190 years after his death, we have still not got Johnson right. Too many lazy images of a talking Toby Jug, ponderously insisting on the last word, have obscured the complex nature of Johnson's good simplicity. There is no simple grab that will not hold of him," writes this biographer; but there is, and Wain makes it. The key to Sam Johnson is his vigorous and practising Christianity: he was, quite simply (and sometimes quite complicatedly, too) a good man. He loathed cruelty and injustice of any kind—even the notes on *Cymbeline* cry out against vivisection—and he was tirelessly generous with his time, his writing (often sonyously), and, once he had some, with his money. He supported an entire household of misfits. He prayed, furiously and memorably.

If Johnson's Christianity re-

conciled many of his complexities, it also gave him guilt. He suffered lifelong remorse for what he believed to have been his failure adequately to love his wife, his brother and his (unloving) parents. He feared the excesses of his natural appetites: "I can't go no more beyond your scenes, Davy," he told Garrick, having found the ladies of Drury Lane too much for Christian contemplation, and when the young Hannah More asked him to have a little drink, Johnson shook his head sadly and replied: "I can't take a little, child, and therefore I never touch it."

He inherited much of his father's depressive temperament, dreading insanity only a little more than idleness: it is impossible not to warm to a writer who perpetuates his work-block by writing down at immense length what he is going to do—write, read, etc.—when he breaks it. He worked feverishly or not at all: the Dictionary and the Shakespeare edition exhausted him, and it was from this collapse that he was saved by the Thrales at Streatham Place. The mysteriously complete break with his adored Hester after her husband's death was the tragedy of Johnson's old age. Why had he not remarried earlier? We do not know. He does not even seem to have tried very hard.

Samuel Johnson is far from gloomy. For every repression fearfully guarded, there is more than one great shout of public life ("What is it you, dogs? I'll have a frisk with you") and many a piece of positive English prose; but it remains true that Johnson's moral precepts were nourished in dark soil. One of Professor Wain's two epigraphs is from *Alice in Wonderland*: "He taught Laughing and Grief, so they say." "So he did, so he did."

Wain, like Johnson, is a Shropshire man and he makes much of the Midlander's balance in Johnson's personality. He places Johnson in a number of highly illuminating contexts: as one of Europe's last Renaissance men, meeting in Boswell the joyous herald of Romantic excess;

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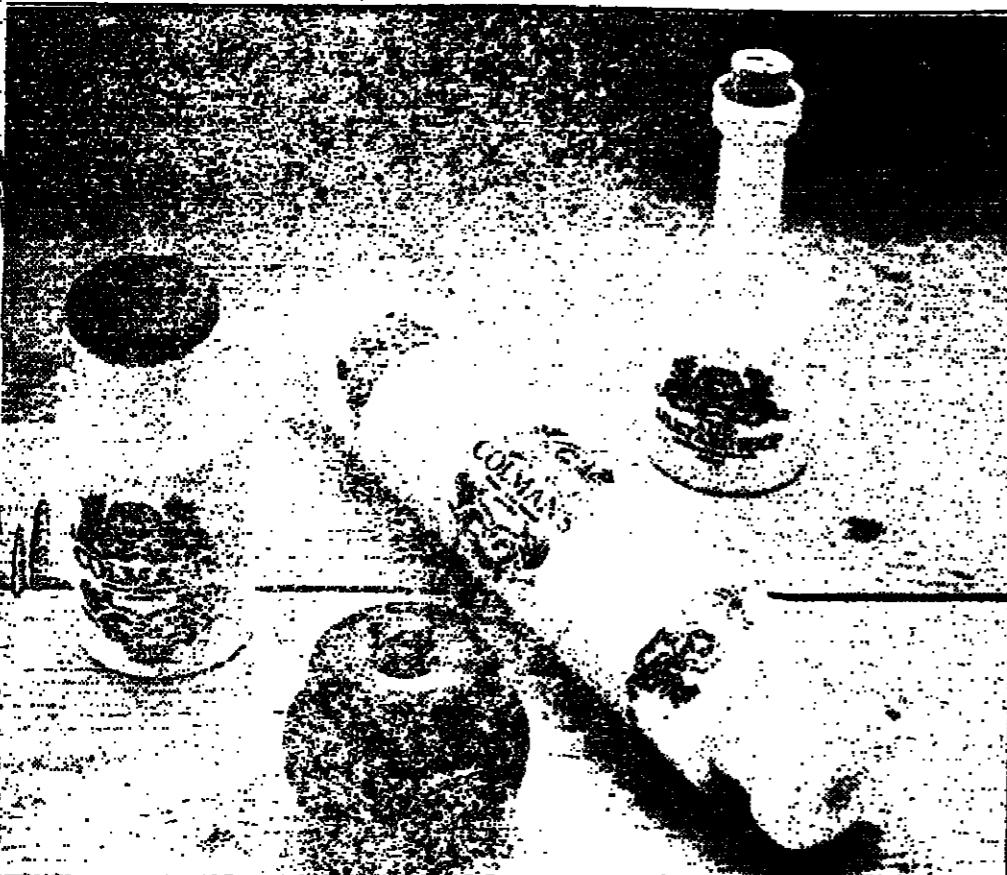
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Shopping around



man's Mustard Shop, opened in Norwich last year to celebrate the brand's 150th birthday. It's getting a mail order service into gear and preparing a catalogue which ought to be ready next fortnight.

Mustard merchandise is really attractive. In the photograph is a kind of off-white, ironstone, with dark brown top and a kind of Victorian design. The old English, French, Dijon, American-style, cranberry, and cream salad mustards as well

as the famous old Savora mustard. Each holds 6 ounces and costs 75p. There is also a bag of bath mustard at 35p—decorated in green on a yellow ground. Aprons, linen or PVC coated, are £1.51 or £1.79 plus VAT (food products are zero-rated but these carry 8 per cent). A tea towel and chopping board are 59p and 97p, while a dark blue mustard pot (shown here) is 73p plus VAT. The address is The Mustard Shop, 3 Bridewell Alley, Norwich, Norfolk. Telephone Norwich 27889.

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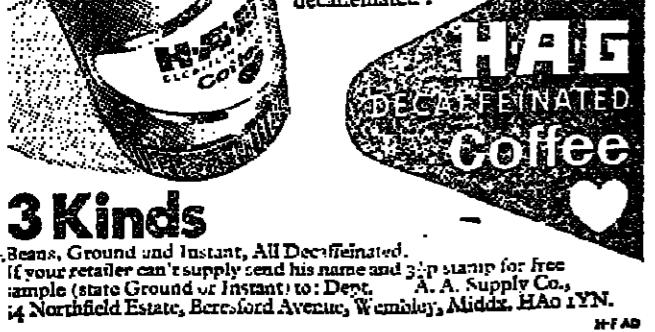


There ought to be a jar in every home...

or those who think they 'can't drink coffee'

Even if you can drink ordinary coffee you should keep a jar of H-A-G decaffeinated coffee in the house for guests who can't ("like coffee but it doesn't like me").

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3 Kinds

Beans, Ground and Instant. All Decaffeinated. If your retailer can't supply send his name and 35p stamp for free sample (state Ground or Instant to Dept. A.A. Supply Co., 14 Northfield Estate, Berkswell Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 1YN. N.F.A.D.)



● Robert Jackson's News Sheet

in chunky, squat jars of off-white stoneware, with sealed red tops, with large clear illustrations, it gives some good ideas for buying by post. Rather sweet are chocolate piglets with huge bows and topers, or ladies' shoes also tied with a bow (respectively 45p and 55p). Jackson's own starred gifts are at Jackson's—try Wedgwood's blue or brown quail, or Mason's green fruit basket (65p and 60p for the 10in sizes). Herbs, cake candles, pomanders, and those lovely big whisky flasks, in rich dark blue pottery. They hold a bottle of seven year old whisky and cost £6.50. A smaller gimmick is the golf ball filled with

whisky (90p plus 10p postage). The Crabtree and Evelyn jars, borders and boxes are in a good many larger chemists, gift shops and fancy goods shops or department stores, but Jackson's sell them by mail. The bottle and label design are as fascinating as ever, so that these make very unusual gifts—the fragrances are so different that they intrigue. Harrods have a good display of these—honey water, elderflower water, and lavender water with a really old fashioned scent are £1.72 each. Nice for sprinkling or aftershave (find them in the men's department and give them to men or women). Harrods will also post, of course, but check postage costs which vary according to the parcel.

Hungarian water is another Crabtree and Evelyn revival, now at most leading department stores. Invented by a fourteenth-century Hungarian queen, they tell me, who was still being proposed to when she was 76. This has the usual Crabtree and Evelyn refreshing qualities, plus an elusive fragrance which makes it either an eau de toilette or, for avant-garde men, an expensive aftershave. It costs £2.50 for a jar-shaped bottle, in a sort of cigar carton, and Jackson's will post it for an extra 24p.

Elizabethan tubs of soap are £1.97 plus 29p. Calico sacks of soap are 75p plus 10p.

Jackson's broadsheet of gift ideas comes from the shop at 171 Piccadilly, London, W1 (please send a large s.a.e.), but personal shoppers will find it and plenty of tempting goodies there and at 6A/6B Sloane Street, London, SW1.

For Crabtree and Evelyn's other stockists, write to them at 38 Savile Row, London, W1.

Sheila Black

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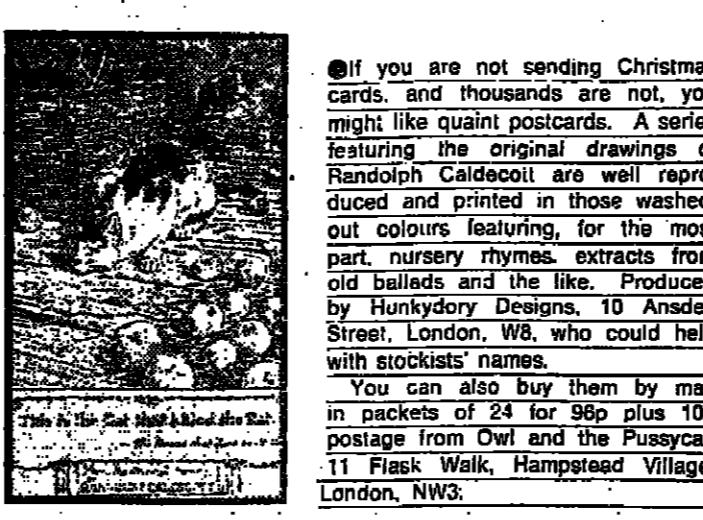
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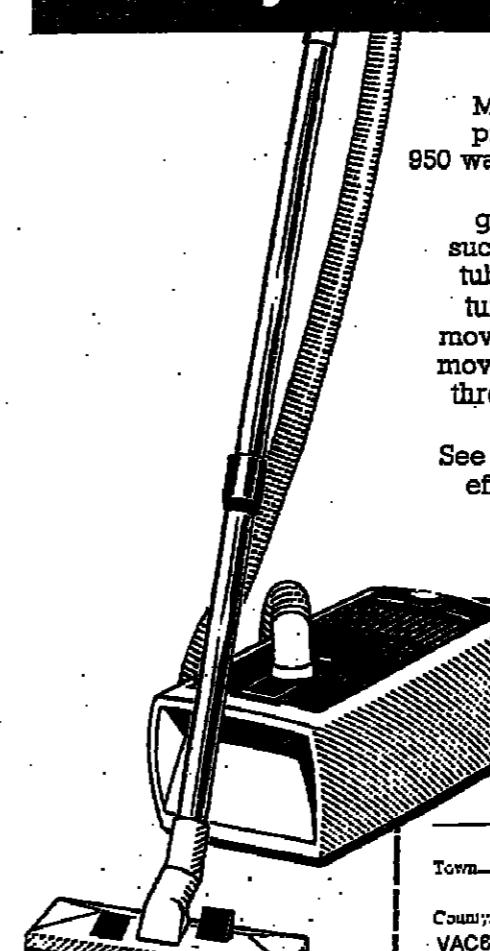
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● If you are not sending Christmas cards, and thousands are not, you might like quaint postcards. A series featuring the original drawings of Randolph Caldecott are well reproduced and printed in those washed out colours, featuring for the most part nursery rhymes, extracts from old ballads and the like. Produced by Hunkydory Designs, 10 Ansdell Street, London, W8, who could help with stockists' names.

You can also buy them by mail in packets of 24 for 96p plus 10p postage from Owl and the Pussycat, 11 Flax Walk, Hampstead Village, London, NW3.



a Special Report on the first six months of M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's presidency

FRANCE

مكذا من الأصل

May M Jacques Chirac became at the age of 42 one of the youngest Prime Ministers France has ever had, after a career which began in 1967 as the trusted assistant of M Pompidou, was then Prime Minister. In the seven years M Chirac (below) was a member of successive governments and distinguished himself by ability, his energy, and his drive. After election of M Giscard d'Estaing as President, to which he had made a contribution by opposing M Delmas's candidature, he was given the challenging task of heading a new government of change and reform and of making a Gaullist party seriously shaken by the loss of its former monopoly of



in an exclusive interview, tend to demonstrate that history is a kind of permanent spiral. I am not sure it is a historical history of the evolution of a society.

"What is true is that the election of M Giscard d'Estaing marked, without a doubt, a certain desire for change, largely irrational, on

the part of the French people. M Giscard d'Estaing benefited from a political dynamism peculiar to him self, that of representing change in continuity: change because he was always considered as on the verge of the traditional Gaullist majority; and continuity because his political career began in 1958, and he had belonged to almost all governments of the Fifth Republic.

"He also appeared as the man who could most easily carry out this broadening of the new presidential majority. This was undoubtedly necessary to the extent that it was essential to bring together all Frenchmen who contested the choice of society represented by the common programme of the left."

Another kind of society

French history showed that every 15 or 18 years there was a change of regime. "This time we had the luck not to change the regime, to maintain the fundamental options which were ours, and this thanks to M Giscard d'Estaing. To this respect the present majority, Gaullist or non-Gaullist, owes him a great deal, for without him M Mitterrand would have been elected, and then it would have meant another kind of society."

It was not peculiar to Frenchmen that their permanent desire for change very quickly reached its limit. "This does not mean that it is not part of the mission of a government conscious of its responsibilities to carry out the necessary changes to adapt the structures of society to what are regarded as the choices necessary for the future, so that we find ourselves at present in a situation in some respects is not easy and which consists in really carrying out this change, while a major part of the population is not so anxious to see it come about."

"Change conflicts necessarily with a fundamental notion of acquired rights. But in a society where security is rightly one of the essential

aspirations, to bring into question acquired rights raises difficult political and psychological problems.

"I am convinced that true popularity for a statesman begins always with a spell of unpopularity. But one must continue on this road. In any case it is the intention of the President and therefore of the Government. Fluctuations of popularity do not matter. We have time on our side. We are a long way from elections and must therefore make the best of it."

I remarked that there had been much talk last May about the "end of the UDR (Gaullist) state". M Chirac replied that the expression had no significance. When M Servan-Schreiber had invented this striking slogan, he hit the target psychologically, as was the case with many irrelevant arguments. However, "the vocation of Gaullism in the new majority is an essential vocation. It is so on the parliamentary plane, because the Gaullists are a majority of this new majority. But it is also without a doubt the case politically because the Gaullist deputies are those who, by their origins and by vocation, are most conscious of the nature and the demands of our institutions."

"They are the most resolutely opposed to the domination of parties and of Parliament, and when the President wishes to emphasize the presidential aspect of the constitution of 1958—that is to turn his back firmly on the errors of the Fourth Republic—one sees that the support of a party fundamentally inspired by these principles is quite essential to him. So the role of Gaullism is above all to uphold the spirit of our institutions and inspire the policy of the Government by maintaining the objectives of dignity at home and abroad: dignity of man, dignity of the nation. So Gaullism has a fundamental part to play in the future of the presidential majority."

It was essential in a modern democracy that relations between majority and opposition should be marked by fair play to avoid a process of permanent aggressiveness, which led to deadlocks in society. "This is obviously difficult, especially when oppositions are as clear cut as they are in France, since they

involve opposition on the very nature of Society, and the role of man in Society.

"So we have initiated a policy of better relations with the opposition. The President has received personalities of the opposition and I have received the leaders of parliamentary groups of the opposition and will do so again. But the nature of the opposition makes these contacts difficult. It is not a reason not to have them. On the human plane and on that of cordiality, they have been very satisfactory. But as things stand, these contacts are not yet very productive. I hope we can improve them."

The Government had been in power five months, and the election of the presidential elections had given way to a certain moroseness, I said. It was natural, M Chirac replied, that the euphoria had ceased. It was bound up with the passing phenomenon of the elections. But also "we have entered a period of serious economic difficulties which provoke disquiet in public opinion, which explains certain moroseness."

"You say the Government is accused of acting with a certain light-heartedness. It is not light-heartedness to have carried out the reforms already under way, like lowering the voting age to 18. When Parliament is called upon to examine the Budget one will not be justified in speaking of light-heartedness. That being so, a government must always be criticized. It is criticized today for its casualties. In June it was criticized for measures that were said would lead to the final ruin of medium and small firms."

Call to mobilize public opinion

In September it was criticized for taking inadequate steps to check inflation and was called upon to mobilize public opinion by imposing greater sacrifices on the nation. "In October we are accused of acting without foresight and of sparking off unemployment. These criticisms are, as always, excessive. We have a tough task of defending employment at the same time as we conduct a systematic policy of fighting inflation and restoring our balance of payments."

The Prime Minister admitted that the desire to maintain the present high level of employment limited the Government's room for manoeuvre over inflation. "It is true one cannot pursue a policy of restoring the balance of payments with the restraints this involves in the field of credit, of the budget of prices, and therefore of industry, without its affecting employment."

"And the challenge we try to meet, in a country which never could tolerate unemployment, less than any other, is precisely to try to maintain an employable position which is acceptable, while pursuing the objective we set ourselves: that is to say, to achieve by mid-1975 a rise in prices comparable to our German neighbour's and at the end of the year a restoration of the balance of payments."

"We appear to be progressing towards this goal. By the end of the year we shall have reduced the rise in prices to what was foreseen for this deadline. That is to say, a little over 1 per cent a month. And the trade balance for September was extremely positive, about half what we could have feared."

Drastic price controls

To the objection that the Government in its struggle against inflation seemed to prefer a policy of persuasion to one of controls, the Prime Minister replied that this was not at all the feeling of business and industry. Company taxes had been increased. Credit restrictions were very strict. The budget was balanced and its increase was lower than the expected gross domestic product next year, so that it did not create any additional inflationary pressures. Finally, a drastic policy of price controls had been introduced which would make itself felt in coming months.

Although the unions howled when one mentioned it, the over-rapid increase in wages played an important part in present inflationary pressures. It did not spell any real advantage for the workers. It was therefore absolutely necessary—and this was more a matter for persuasion than compulsion—to ensure that wages did not continue to progress as fast as they did now.

The anti-inflation tax was not, as the unions claimed, a brake on wage increases. "In present circumstances, nothing prevents firms from granting unreasonable wage increases. As their congress in Lille, employers' representatives claimed that the Government had led the way

in wage inflation. This is entirely without foundation. Wage increases in the private sector have been at least as great if not higher than in the public sector."

On foreign policy, I asked M Chirac whether, contrary to what M Giscard d'Estaing had insisted, it was not possible to get the European Economic and Monetary Union going again in the context of the monetary crisis, and of the lack of coordination of anti-inflationary policies of member states.

"You will tell me that in the past there were situations which were the reverse. That is why we think there is no objection to the stocktaking. But it cannot be carried out on a country by country basis. We consider the CAP is an important step towards the rationalization of agriculture and the creation of a real European agricultural economy. That is the reason why, whatever the outcome of the stocktaking, we cannot accept a renegotiation or revision of the CAP."

The communists accused the Government of having abandoned the former policy of independence in its relations with the United States. Had this policy changed, I asked. The communists accused the Government of everything, Mr Chirac said, and the very excess of their criticism made it vain. Relations between France and the United States have perhaps undergone some changes of form and not only because the type of diplomacy pursued by M Sauvagnargues is perhaps a bit different from the type favoured by M Joubert," he went on.

"In substance, we are still true allies of the United States, but demanding with regard to our independence. There had been a 'loosening up', to use the Foreign Minister's term, of relations with the United States, in matters of form, and this was desirable."

The Prime Minister did not think the world economic crisis would lead to renewed pressure for a cutting down of American troops in Europe, because their presence is an essential element of American defence, and the fundamental interest of the United States is to maintain these forces in Europe."

This should not affect the determination of Europe to pursue its own defence effort. France, for her part, participated seriously in it. She had a defence organization which was independent, but active and substantial. The creation of a European defence force, however, was premature.

Although M Chirac does not like them, I ventured a personal question. I asked whether his experience of five months at the head of the Government had been an enriching experience, very different from that of specialized departments of state such as he had before. "It is certainly an enriching and testing experience in the present political context on account of the difficulties arising from the trauma suffered by the biggest party of the government majority after the presidential elections. It is enriching, so, I do not know whether this has changed my character. I do not know if this has soured it and I am the last person to express a judgment on this point."

Charles Hargrove

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A clamour for change—but not revolution

by Charles Hargrove

"From this day begins a new era of French political life," M Giscard d'Estaing declared in his inaugural address on May 27 at the Elysée Palace. Shortly afterwards he walked up the Champs Elysées to lay a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier, a sign of the new times his election had ushered in for France.

Under President Pompidou it was common to speak of the Fifth Republic under President Giscard d'Estaing, one is justified in speaking of the Sixth Republic. The keynote of the former's term of office was continuity and change; the latter's is simple change. That, the changes set up by General de Gaulle in 1958 has not been overturned, contrary to the old French tradition which limited the life of successive regimes between 15 and 20 years, as M Chirac points out in his interview. It has been substantially transformed, however, with the coming to power of the youngest French President since Louis Napoleon in 1848.

"You will be surprised," he said on the night of the election, "by the scope and the speed of the change we shall introduce in France". And in his message to Parliament he said simply: "France wants to become different."

In this respect, the election campaign had been a revelation for him. It had brought him closer to the aspirations, the hopes and cares of the ordinary French man and woman than he had ever been throughout a rapid, brilliant and somewhat sheltered political career. It was to this he referred when in that same inaugural address he said: "I listen and I hear again the immense clamour of the French people who asked us to introduce change. We shall bring about this change."

But there was another reason why M Giscard d'Estaing struck this keynote of change from the very moment he took office. He was elected with fewer than 500,000 votes more than M Mitterrand, the candidate of the left, a margin of less than 1 per cent. Never had the opposition parties come so close to obtaining power.

The new President never allows himself to forget this, even if a substantial section of his supporters, for whom he was not the candidate of change but the bulwark against the communists, are inclined to forget it. Now their moment of alarm is over. "The Government is liberal because it wants change. The country also wants it and would bring it about in any case. If we did not, others would, in confusion and by compulsion," he said.

The purpose of the change was to bring about a society which is more just, more human, more fraternal". M Giscard d'Estaing sensed during the presidential campaign that the traditional France—the France of the provinces, solid, fundamentally conservative, armoured of security and order, that France to which President Pompidou always appealed over and beyond the turbulent, critical, questioning France of the intellectuals, the politicians, and the Paris Salons—that France wanted change, but it did not want a revolution.

But M Giscard d'Estaing, as a sincere liberal, is determined to reach them in their desire for reform, in their desire for real change, for a more just, more human, more fraternal France. As M Chirac says: "People want change, for others but not so much for themselves. It is like paying taxes. It is like paying the Paris Salons—but France wanted change, but it did not want a revolution."

With M Giscard d'Estaing, influence of disease. M Giscard d'Estaing is as firmly attached to the principle of national independence as was his predecessor.

But for him this old Gaullist axiom has a different meaning: it's autonomy of action and decision rather than a sort of touchy isolationism. He defined it himself clearly before the press: "In the world such as it is, and France being for solutions of cooperation and independence, it is natural that she should participate in a certain number of organizations, that she should press for the setting up of certain structures of cooperation, even for a more thorough-going organization of Europe. But she means to preserve the sovereignty of her decisions. France does not accept solutions of domination."

The change the new President's approach has produced in French foreign policy towards the United States and the European Community is marked. French diplomats quote the aphorism of the Duc de Choiseul, the Foreign Minister of Louis XV—"one can take every liberty on condition one is gracious". They are right to emphasize French foreign policy, since M Giscard d'Estaing took office, has certainly become more gracious than it was when M Joffre used to condemn the "hegemony of the super-powers".

M Joffre, along with some brooding Gaullists, was quick to perceive the point beyond which a change of form becomes a change of substance. A few weeks ago he wrote that "a desire to please should not command the foreign policy of a nation. We can write: foreign powers rejoice, France has become amiable again".

It did not escape any of the commentators who analysed the President's latest

move to push ahead the modernization and humanisation of French society, and industrial power no longer spite of resistance, will bring progress had bypassed many Frenchmen belonging to that class who do not like the Gaullists out of their habit. He is convinced it is the only way of preserving France in the long run from those convulsions that followed May and June 1968. In his analysis, it is the only alternative to the present which neither he nor

wants.

This also means reforming ingrained political habits, bridging the gulf which separates the majority from the opposition, substituting dialogue for confrontation, calling opposition leaders to the Elysée Palace for consultation, of course, of course, of course. M Giscard d'Estaing, who had refused to accept the new presidential majority, enlarged one step further to include the reformers of M Le Camer and M Servan-Schreiber, is even more comfortable than President Pompidou's, though it is less coherent and disciplined.

Its backbone, and this is the paradox of the situation, remains the 180-strong Gaullist Party. It has been searching for its soul ever since it lost the presidency, and was forced to accept as Prime Minister a man from its own ranks whom it was inclined to regard as a reactionary.

The presidential elections were a parenthesis in the life of a country which was just beginning to adjust itself psychologically to a world in crisis, although the previous government of M Mitterrand had done little to awaken the consciousness of its citizens. France had given itself a new, young, elegant, talented, active President who fascinated the country by his bold ideas and his innovations. The promise of change and reform was fulfilled.

The left and the unions were puzzled and irritated, but quiescent for they did not quite know how to take him.

Then came the summer holidays and the great August hiatus.

Inevitably, with the coming of the autumn, the mood of the country became more sober, if not sombre. The fact that much of the world had entered a period of penury sank in. The Government's austerity and inflationary measures, criticised for their inadequacy and piecemeal character, began to hurt. Some firms closed down and others laid off labour. The motor and the building and aircraft industries reduced their activity, and unemployment figures rose to more than 500,000.

The unions, until then ready to join forces to tackle the Government, went over to the attack. The opposition recovered from the shock of defeat by a brief's breadth, began to demand the Government and the Centre and its own majority to be responsible for the economic crisis. The spectre of inflation and unemployment was raised again.

Public reaction to these external signs of change was not altogether enthusiastic. Some of the innovations were regarded as rather irritating "gimmicks". Others, like the transfer of the July 14 military parade from the Champs Elysées to the Bastille, were regarded as an unnecessary break with popular tradition.

Voting at 18 was all right as far as it went. But the reform of the penal system, when prisoners wasted the taxpayers' money in setting fire to and wrecking one prison after the other, was widely criticized. When the old people, the sick and the handicapped, was the outcome. The desire for reform in France, very quickly reached its limit. As M Chirac says: "People want change, for others but not so much for themselves. It is like paying the Paris Salons—but France wanted change, but it did not want a revolution."

Although the Government was especially noticeable in the comment that followed his last press conference,

somewhat seems to be confirmed in detached optimism that the Gaullists who feel it is better to adjust the rigidity of one's principles to the requirements of remaining part of the Government majority and throw an unredeemable rump of diehards out to the right. It would also attempt to coax and wheedle into its ranks those socialists who had tired of the alliance with the communists.

A government with time on its side

Politically, he draws his confidence from the fact that the Government has time on its side. Parliamentary elections are not due for nearly four years, bearing a dissolution; presidential elections not for another seven. The new presidential majority, enlarged one step further to include the reformers of M Le Camer and M Servan-Schreiber, is even more comfortable than President Pompidou's, though it is less coherent and disciplined.

But there is no indication that these hopes have any real political consistency in actual fact and for the immediate future. The centre will always remain a rather amorphous conglomerate of political families, drawn from such disparate and even antagonistic origins as the former Christian Democrats of the MRP, who constitute the rank and file, and of M Le Camer's troops, and the conservative liberals of the old Fourth Republican Independents.

The regrouping of political forces would make no sense if the bulk of the socialists remained wedded to the communists. In spite of recent difficulties between the two parties, caused by the communists' realization that the union of the left worked to their allies' advantage and to their own detriment, the two are condemned to remain together.

The communists know that they can never come to power by their own "united front" strength and M Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, does not consider that the old dream of the grand federation of the centre and the left, tried in 1965, has no bearing on reality. To the left, in his analysis, came to power, and should not come to power, without the communists.

It is not when the Socialist Party is gaining ground throughout the country, as last October's by-elections showed, when its prescription for dealing with the economic crisis is widely commented on as more convincing than the Government's, when the dynamics of unity are paying hands down for the Socialists, that it would think of breaking its alliance with the Communist Party.

The picture is certainly much less clear-cut on the other side of the fence. But in a regime when the president has enormous authority and prestige, where he can effectively wield the weapon of dissolution to keep his own majority in order, nothing short of a major economic crisis could really undermine him.

The new President has many assets. His conception of the presidential office is even more authoritarian than his predecessor's. It is he who really decides everything. That the Government is good, through a difficult but steady road and next summer, the Government is not at all sure of winning them, the sniping and fighting against the President and the Government has commenced.

It was significant in the first weeks of the parliament's session that over constitutional reform and the budget, a handful of diehard Gaullists voted regularly with the opposition.

When M Giscard d'Estaing was elected, political observers all agreed that this was the end, not of the Fifth Republic, though it is running imperceptibly into the sixth, but of what M Servan-Schreiber called the "UDR state", the domination of the whole machinery of government and administration for 15 years by the Gaullist party.

Whether he likes it or not, however, since elections are not for tomorrow, the President must govern with the support of the Gaullist Party.

This means that he cannot, through a difficult but steady road and next summer, the Government is not at all sure of winning them, the sniping and fighting against the President and the Government has commenced.

What is the failure of M Giscard d'Estaing to establish with the bulk of his fellow countrymen that real contact with the French people which he needs to see him through? They do not yet have a real "feel" for him, as they do with General de Gaulle and M Pompidou; and the same goes for M Giscard d'Estaing, who has established with his Gaullist guardians of the party's soul.

M Giscard d'Estaing said during the election that "France wished to be governed from the centre". His ambition is to create a great centre party that would take over from the Gaullists the President by direct universal suffrage.

A move to interdependence in foreign policy

With M Giscard d'Estaing, the keynote of French foreign policy is pragmatic realism. His vision of France's role does not preclude all sentiment: when he speaks of France as a "liberal country in the modern sense of the word—that is to say a country which urges cooperation, defence, disarmament, and contributes to the easing of tensions in the world", he does so with obvious sincerity and feeling. But he considers that the realities of her position in a Europe and a world in crisis, a position which he neither exaggerates nor minimizes, must determine her action abroad.

I am sometimes criticised for having chosen simplicity instead of grandeur", he declared in a television broadcast in September.

"I have never confused France with self-indulgence. A country is great when it does not deceive itself about its real capacities, but plays fully, soberly and intelligently in the world in which it lives. The greatness of France, as I see it, is to be herself and to face up to the tough problems which assail her.

Unlike his predecessor, who always had a deep-seated suspicion of West Germany and German power, M Giscard d'Estaing considers that France will overtake West Germany economically by 1985. He has no obsessions about Russia.

She is not the master mind of a communist party which constitutes a permanent internal threat to French social order and stability of M Pompidou's philosophy.

Like him, he believes in the capacity and resources of France; but his view of the world, unlike M Pompidou's, is not defensive, as was the case in the last two years of M Pompidou's life under the

influence of disease. M Giscard d'Estaing is as firmly attached to the principle of national independence as was his predecessor.

But for him this old Gaullist axiom has a different meaning: it's autonomy of action and decision rather than a sort of touchy isolationism. He defined it himself clearly before the press: "In the world such as it is, and France being for solutions of cooperation and independence, it is natural that she should participate in a certain number of organizations, that she should press for the setting up of certain structures of cooperation, even for a more thorough-going organization of Europe. But she means to preserve the sovereignty of her decisions. France does not accept solutions of domination."

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Ambassador to France paid a call on him, which caused much irritation to the French Communist Party.

"As we are partisans of the independence of France's foreign policy of France", M Giscard d'Estaing has said, "we should also be partisans of the independence of Soviet foreign policy". And he expressed astonishment at this irritation.

After the election Moscow was uneasy, wondering whether the new President's reputation for "Atlanticism" would involve a further drift from Central Europe, with its policy of distant entente and cooperation with Russia. This announcement last October of Mr Breznev's visit in Paris from December 5 to 7 before the meeting with President Ford, put an end to these apprehensions.

M Giscard d'Estaing's pro-American sympathies are distinctly more marked than those of his predecessor. But they are balanced by a very open approach to Russia and the countries of Eastern Europe.

It is worth remembering that during his 12 years as the Finance Minister, he always found time to preside over the French delegation on the joint economic committee set up to develop trade and cooperation with Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland. He has through the years developed a very intimate personal working relationship with the East.

A recent demonstration of this interest was his acceptance of a formal invitation to visit Poland next year. Poland does not stand very high in the list of French priorities; but it was a visit of demonstrating that, while the super-powers called a tune, this was no reason for neglecting the lesser members of the eastern camp.

public foreseen as economic match for Germany

the moment M. Giscard d'Estaing took to be substituted for the new last May, a far-reaching Britain, dear to President of French society Pompidou.

ood at the top of his

France will dent and the Chancellor,

for the progressive who knew and appreciated

the organization of one another, and had the

an unity", he said in same practical, unsentimental message to Parliament after his problems, met three times

During the campaign, within three months was

he had promised to

regarded as confirmation of

new diplomatic revolution.

as fully aware that

the period of the simple. The special relationship between Paris and London ended with the disappearance of Mr. Heath

would naturally look for inspiration and leadership.

The EEC partners' Europe by putting forward

demand for renegotiation in particularly abrupt terms.

M. Giscard d'Estaing was

convinced of the need for

an initiative on Europe. But

he did not wish to produce

one as coming only from

France. He felt it essential

to obtain the support of the

other larger countries in the

Community, since Britain, as he put it, had opted out

for the time being.

The experience of the past

15 years of Community life,

on a six-member basis, at

least, has demonstrated that

he had been struck by

facts. In their inaudible

speeches neither Nixon nor

Pompidou had mentioned

once, and again, and again

had been powerfully

stop a conflict between

two of its associates

in this "draw two

ions", he said. "The

that Europe can rely

itself to unite; that the

that the modern

will truly be the

world only when its

cease to show a

in the place of

The German veto on the 5

per cent increase in agricultural

prices in October pro-

voked an outcry on the part

of the French press and

public opinion, but not of

the French Government, as

excessive as the hopes

raised by the new Franco-

German understanding.

The French Government

surprised, but not excessively, as France had

itself, on more than one

occasion resorted to much

the same model in its agricul-

tural policy. But the episode illustrated the limitations of the alliance be-

tween the two capitals, and

against the background of

set upon by the

as evidence that a

of the privileged

which General de

and Dr Adenauer is

originally concluded in

a thing of the past. What

counts now is a sober

decides whether to stay in

inevitably has led to a



President Giscard d'Estaing with Herr Helmut Schmidt in Paris last May.

parallel improvement with those countries of the EEC, Germany to the fore, which have closer transatlantic affinities than France. The problem of relations between Europe and the United States has not been solved, but France has agreed to shelved it.

Relations with its other European partners have improved also because France has given up its former categorical stand on what might be called theological aspects of European unity. Ideology never made Europe progress, because it imprisoned the Europeans in their own quarrels, instead of raising problems in new and contemporary terms, M. Giscard d'Estaing said at his press conference.

The endless discussions about European Europe and European independence are regarded as no longer in season. In both form and content, the French Government's approach to European problems has undergone significant changes since M. Giscard d'Estaing took office.

It was clear from the outset that there would be a French initiative on European unity, at a summit which would meet in Paris before the end of the French six-month presidency of the Council of Ministers. But it was characteristic of M. Giscard d'Estaing's new conception of European partnership that when it comes to the point, he did not wish this initiative to appear in any way a French, or for that matter a Franco-German, *fait accompli*. A plan drawn up by the

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In content also, the French approach has changed. M. Giscard d'Estaing's tentative proposals first economic and financial, and more recently institutional and political.

Relations with the other EEC partners have also become more normal than they got from his European partners. They sprang from two basic considerations: to preserve the smaller members of the European Community being steamrolled by the three larger ones.

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Government backed to put brake on inflation

by Charles Hargrove

productivity and a growth rate of 3% per cent in the past five years, the highest in Europe. Even next year, with an estimated 3.5 to 4 per cent growth rate, France will be ahead of her partners in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Finally, after an initial fall, the franc has recovered its position it held when it floated last January, which is comparable to that in 1969, and French reserves have remained at about the level of last January.

This comparison of weakness and assets is what has encouraged the Government to adopt a stand-point of qualified optimism on prospects for the economy until the end of next year, and to propose a neutral, balanced budget, without any additional tax squeeze. It is banking on the continued decline in raw material prices, the stabilization of oil and a certain recovery of world activity, as forecast by the OECD.

A third is the continued inflationary pressure, which is due only in part to the quadrupling of the oil import bill. A fourth is the age structure of the French working population, with a higher proportion of school-leavers going in search of jobs on a contracting labour market in a period of economic deceleration.

Another way is to look at the French economy's assets which make France much better placed than some of its European neighbours in the battle against inflation. Among these is an economic structure which is basically sound, without excessive dependence on exports; an apparatus of production which has been progressively modernized in the past of the latest employment statistics. The number of investment of 30 per cent of the registered unemployed in 1973, higher than West Germany's; fast rising mark for the first time

since 1968, and went up by 100,000 on the figure for this by the end of 1973, last year. It might rise to while maintaining full employment. The medium or long-term aim is to panic buying (except for heating appliances, blankets and woollens) and the level of savings remained until recently, remarkably high.

France is, as M Chirac, the Prime Minister, explains elsewhere in this report, paradoxically, much more acutely sensitive to the development of unemployment than its neighbours—even though it has never known mass unemployment on the scale of Britain or West Germans—and to a steady rise in unemployment statistics. This development, however satisfactory in strict economic terms in that it reduces the inflationary pressure, can in the long run, if it is not checked, have serious repercussions on the social, and therefore on the political, climate of the country, and seriously compromise the Government's plan for recovery.

Exports have continued to expand over the past year by more than 12 per cent. The employment position, with only 2% per cent of registered unemployed, is still, by comparison with West Germany or the United States, very satisfactory. For the first half of this year, job offers have exceeded demand. Dire predictions about the possibility of widespread labour unrest, first in early summer, then in the autumn, have so far proved unfounded.

There is a big unknown in the economic objectives which the Government has set itself in the short term. Its declared aim is to reduce the rate of inflation, it was provoked by industrial rather than domestic consumption, save almost impossible to achieve. Even the Government is beginning to suggest that it may not happen before the beginning of 1976.

President leaves unions out of breath

by Michael Parrott

When M Giscard d'Estaing presented his candidature in this year's presidential elections his opponents were quick to pick on social policy and labour relations as the main weakness in his political platform.

The Gaullist rival, M Chaban-Delmas, could point to his success in bringing unions and management round the negotiating table when he was Prime Minister a few years earlier, while the Socialist candidate, M Mitterrand, also, like Mr Wilson in Britain, offer the promise of industrial peace on the basis of his union support. M Giscard, the aloof Finance Minister with little taste for ideology, be it Gaullist or Socialist, was criticized as a man of the people who would be unable to rally the country behind him.

Yet for several months after M Giscard's hairbreadth election victory, the French Labour movement remained remarkably quiet. The main criticisms of the new Government have come from the unions but from management. Far from abandoning Gaullist ideas on worker participation and the union-management dialogue initiated by M Chaban-Delmas, M Giscard has pushed further ahead at a pace which has disconcerted management and left the unions out of breath.

All these measures are beginning to prove effective, particularly on small and medium-sized firms which, over-borrowed, are short of liquidity and cannot resort to the foreign currency market.

However, the restoration of the balance of payments by the end of 1975 is, in the opinion of independent experts, almost impossible to achieve.

Even the Government

to the unions; and there was a feeling that M Giscard had to be given the chance to present his new policies. Another reason was that the new President gave little cause for union discontent. As expected, he did not provoke union wrath by imposing a Gaullist-style prices and incomes policy; instead he announced his intention to introduce a tax on companies making excessive price increases or wage awards. And though M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Finance, asked unions to limit their real wage increases to only 2% per cent a year, French workers will probably win 4% per cent increases this year on top of the 15% per cent inflation rate.

The President also made an immediate gesture to the unions by raising the basic minimum wage, family allowances, old age pensions and certain other social benefits.

Meanwhile M Giscard called on management and unions to open negotiations over the problems of redundancy and working conditions and set up a committee under a former minister, M Pierre Soudre, to examine in broad terms the participation of workers in industry. But whereas M Chaban-Delmas would have left management and unions to themselves, M Giscard warned both sides that the Government would step in with its own legislation if they failed to reach agreement by stated dates.

If M Michel Dourafur, the Labour Minister, has made some rather surprising statements, the committee's recommendations are unlikely to reflect Gaullist ideology.

The Government's first

real success in its labour programme came last month when the French employers' association finally agreed to make redundant through union demands that workers should receive unemployment benefit equivalent to their full wages for up to a year. These benefits, which are more generous than those available in any other country, will be paid from a joint employer-employee fund in which the employer pays 80% per cent. The agreement, which is expected to cost some £90m next year, was signed a few days before the Government announced that France's unemployment figures had exceeded 500,000.

The Government is also negotiating with unions and management over combining the joint fund with the state's own unemployment benefits. Under pressure from the employers the Government has already agreed to increase its contribution to more than £100m, from about £70m, but the unions are pressing for an even bigger contribution so that unemployment benefits as a whole can be improved.

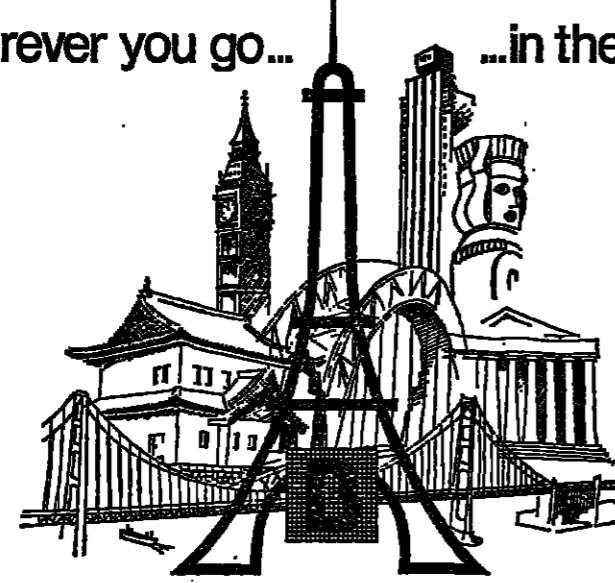
Unions and management are also negotiating the revision of a 1969 agreement over procedures to be adopted when companies dismiss employees. Not only do the unions want the agreement to be applied to individual as well as mass lay-offs, but they are demanding more information, the right to make counter-proposals and eventual recourse to an arbitration committee. The unions insist that any layoffs must be suspended while the court is examining the case, and sometimes they go so far as demanding

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Energy plans could inspire neighbours

by Richard Wigg

When the Arabs stunned the world last year with their oil embargo, France seemed to be the one country which might emerge from the crisis unscathed. Thanks to de Gaulle's careful cultivation of the Arabs, France was classified, along with Britain, as a friendly nation entitled to almost normal supplies.

But it is not always realized that despite endless political speeches and energy packages, it was only this autumn that any really effective measures were taken. The death of President Pompidou, the subsequent elections and the summer recess prevented any legislation being adopted earlier.

On the basis of energy consumption over the first nine months of this year the Government looks like keeping 1974 energy consumption at 1973 levels and cutting oil consumption by about 5% per cent compared with previous annual increases of more than 10 per cent. Consumption of heating oil was down 9.5 per cent, heavy fuel oil for electricity production down 5.8 per cent and petrol down 3.1 per cent, while heavy fuel for industry and gas oil rose 3.1 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively. The results are not as good as those of most other European countries, but they were achieved during a period of strong economic growth on the basis mainly of price increases.

The Government's economic measures have been concentrated on the domestic fuel oil sector, which accounts for more than a third of French oil consumption.

With limited coal resources, declining gas reserves, insignificant hydroelectric and nuclear power and no oil of its own, France depends on imported oil, gas and coal for 75 per cent of its energy consumption. With imported oil accounting for 66 per cent of total French energy consumption, France saw a 1973 trade surplus of some £600m turned into a 1974 deficit of £2,000m.

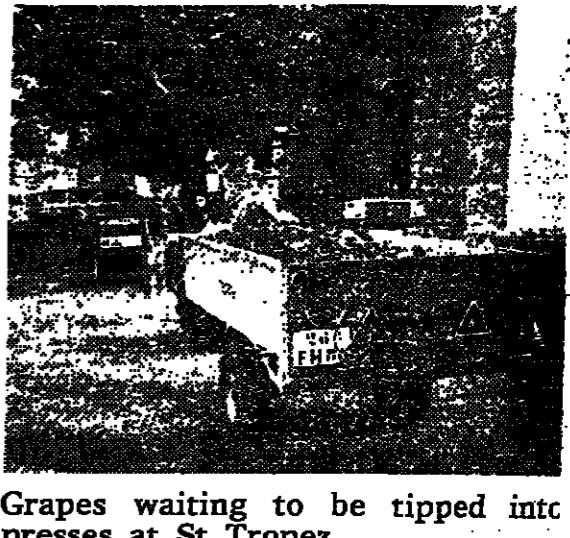
The price increase came at the worst possible moment—after France had moved away from coal and before it was able to build up its nuclear energy. With only 1,400 million tons of known coal reserves compared with 286,000 million tons in Germany and 171,000 million in Britain, the French realized many years ago that coal offered no answer to the country's energy problems. Since 1960 French coal output has halved, bringing coal's share of French energy demand to only 17 per cent compared with 55 per cent.

However, the availability of cheap oil in the 1960s made nuclear energy economically unattractive and it was not until 1969 that the French Government swallowed national pride by adopting the well-tried United States lightwater reactor technology instead of its own gas-cooled reactors. Nuclear energy has now become economic, but it will take at least a decade before the French can reduce their dependence on oil and gas.

France's future energy position is much bleaker than that of most other European countries. Britain and Germany can always fall back on their coal, while the North Sea offers huge oil and gas prospects for the countries surrounding it. Ever since the French found gas in south-west France in the 1950s, they have had no success on their own territory. Hope that the Sahara oil and gas discoveries might give France the self-sufficiency it has always sought vanished with Algeria's independence and the nationalizations in 1971.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the French have shown the most initiative and thought in tackling the energy crisis. During the past year the Government has introduced a series of measures to economize on energy consumption, announced a major acceleration of the country's nuclear programme, and sought long-term supply arrangements with the world's major oil, gas and coal producers.

Farmers' threats win reform



Grapes waiting to be tipped into presses at St Tropez.

the farmers' questioned felt of the Dutch product account of the interests of the big farmers.

A wheat officer, successfully with the scale cereal farmer been in existence since the late 1930s. But organ beef producers or vegetable growers raise fundamental problem France's small farms the necessary efficiency.

The initiative for agricultural policy has come from the government, though it was wrong to overlook the first signs of new expressed by M Debaisse, president National Federated Farmers' Unions, and small farmer by himself.

The reorganization markets was a first seen in a recent interview La Croix, but was assistance directly the quantities produced provided a solution completely different finding the numerous farmers as a means social justice, ought to be considered". M last summer publicly criticized the present system of subsidies and farmers' loans he noted, "served to the already abnormal of farm incomes".

The present financial policies the financial policies that do not go on. But the farmers, as a result today's inflation and input prices, are getting heavily in debt.

However, the farmers have made it clear they will adamantly and brutal reorganization French farms on American lines and they have been backing of substantial French people for this.

These subsidies, paid to big and small farmers alike, are in addition to an estimated 100m francs market intervention funds to be spent next year by the state, plus an estimated 3,000m francs coming from the EEC fund.

These subsidies, paid to big and small farmers alike, are in addition to an estimated 100m francs market intervention funds to be spent next year by the state, plus an estimated 3,000m francs coming from the EEC fund.

However, assistance towards modernizing agriculture at 2,800 francs will actually be less than it was last year because of inflation. For instance, the fund for the key organization designed to help young farmers to acquire land or extend existing farms is to get only 78m francs. The Young Farmers' Union has for years been campaigning for a target of 100m francs annually, and has calculated that the figure needed next year to begin significant structural reform would be nearer 1,500m francs.

The French Government is contenting itself for the moment with the fact that the CAP stocktake will be conducted by the Brussels Commission and not a group of independent experts. Yet, hidden behind the big row over agricultural prices, the first signs of a partial reform did emerge at this year's annual review between the farmers' organizations and M Chirac.

Between now and the new year the Government and the farmers will study how to organize both agricultural producers and marketing. M Christian Bonnet, the Minister for Agriculture, has recommended the example

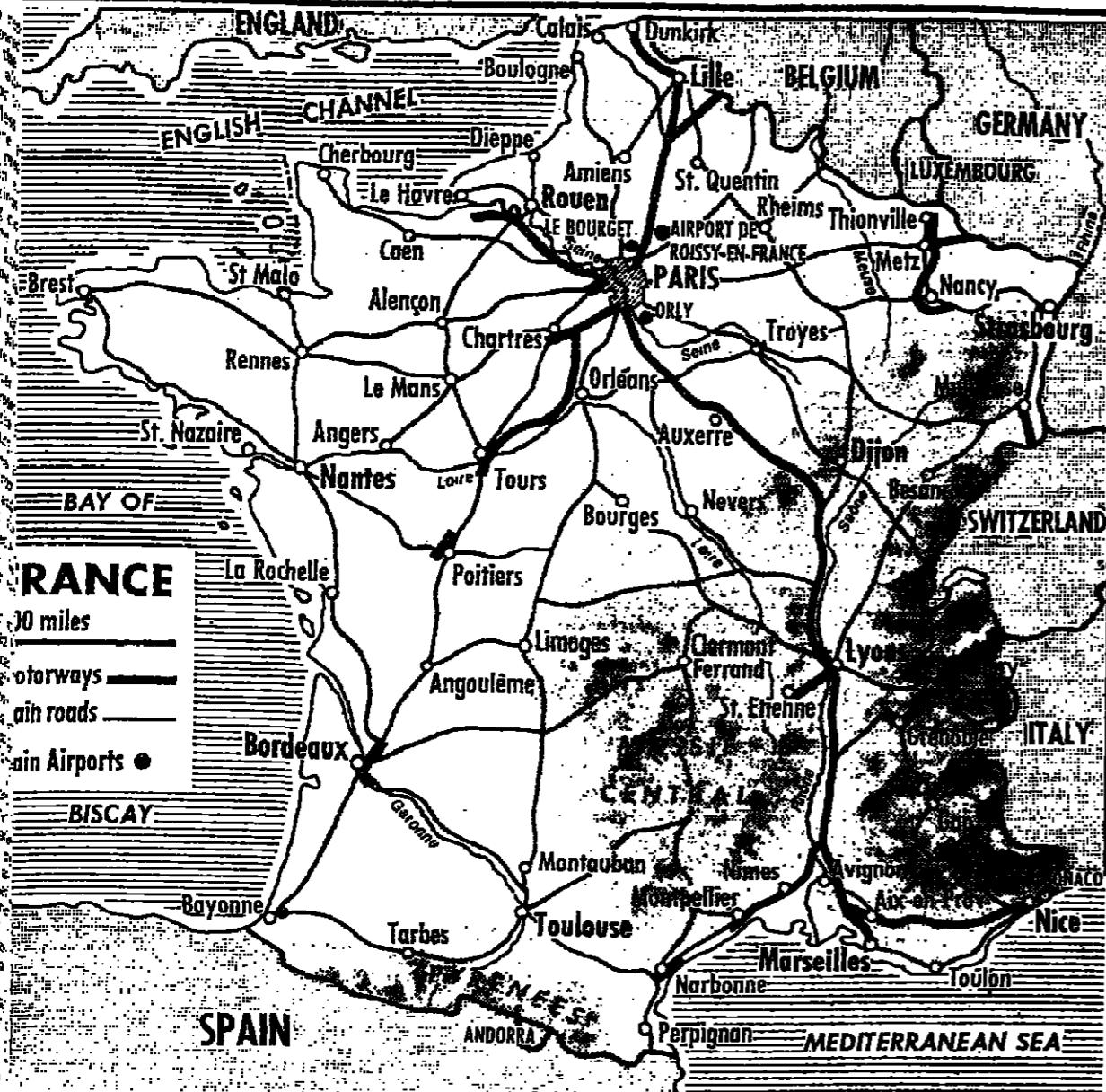
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communications: a brake on planning an answer to austerity call

Hadj-Ristic: President Giscard d'Estaing's plan for national austerity has put the brakes on France's motorways and communications development programme, but has far from brought it to a halt. Before the end of the decade high-speed "bullet" trains will link Paris to the south-east; new highways will have been built through the countryside, and several million telephone lines will have been installed. The roads programme is impressive though this appear, however, it can obscure the fact that 60% will be realized by the end of the decade.

In the next five years the motorway system will link Paris with Germany via Reims, Paris with Italy via Marseilles, and Lyons and Grenoble with Geneva and Chamonix. The importance of this programme is that, apart from serving the aim of regional development, it has the political objective of furthering European unity and complements schemes in progress in other countries.

Scheme will bring revenue

An added factor in favour of the scheme is that it will generate revenue, since it is proposed that all new motorways will be toll roads, with the motorist charged about 10 centimes and lorries 25 centimes a kilometre to use them. Extensive alterations are more likely in the costly flights will be reduced

How far recent events will affect the development programme for roads, railways, air transport, ports and telephones, is still uncertain. The roads programme is expected to be particularly hard hit, however, largely because of the massive rise in the cost of raw materials. Perhaps not as vulnerable as some other projects will be the motorway, which last year was envisaged as trebling the country's internal motorway network from the present 1,400 miles to 4,800 by the end of the decade.

The roads programme is

still likely to be given

priority, to the inter-

regional highways between

Nantes and Lyons, Bordeaux

and Lyons and a highway linking Toulouse with Bordeaux via Marseilles.

Because of the airlines' difficulties. The worst hit has been Air-Inter, the largest domestic carrier. Last month it made an urgent appeal for £4.5m more government money to save it from bankruptcy. Air-Inter announced that it would no longer operate flights from Paris to Lille, Belfort and La Rochelle.

It is hardly surprising, in

the aftermath of the energy

crisis, that it was the air

transport sector that was hit

most heavily. Since 1968

France has seen the rise of

an extensive air transport

network, aided in large measure by the active financial support of the local chambers of commerce, which have far more money and power than their British counterparts, and the Government. So much money has gone into it that this expenditure has come under fire from some quarters as being too much for France's needs.

However, with the 60 or so airline companies facing hard times, officials see little further infrastructure development over the next five years, that is, apart from the opening of the new Satolas airport in the fast-growing Rhône-Alpes region, which is expected to draw traffic away from the over-crowded Geneva airport.

It is also inevitable that

the number of air services

between the 70 or so French cities with daily domestic flights will be reduced

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Arms: a question of success versus conscience

by John Ardagh

France's arms industry is so large, and so successful in its exports, that some French officials seem quite embarrassed and try to play it down. "It is not true that we are aggravating an arms race", I was told at the exports branch of the Defence Ministry. "We are not mere marchands de canons, and in fact France produces only 3 per cent of the world's armaments—as a share of gross national product, that is less than Sweden or Yugoslavia."

Whether or not this is so, it is inevitable that the French are caught between such problems of conscience and the desire, especially strong since the oil crisis, to help their trade balance and employment position by selling as much as possible. This dilemma colours the outlook

of an industry that employs 270,000 people, or one French worker in 19.

Seeing that France, unlike Britain, ended the Second World War with its arms industry at a low ebb, its achievement in rebuilding it has been one of the many remarkable aspects of the postwar economic miracle. It has been due to a dynamic centralized state policy aided by the brilliance and enterprise of a few private firms, notably M. Marcel Dassault's aircraft firm.

The foremost aim has been the political and strategic one of making France self-sufficient in defence, and this has been virtually achieved; apart from one or two imported components and licences, France equips its armed forces itself, either alone or in co-production,

rilla operations.

France is now the world's

third arms exporter, after

the United States and Soviet

Union. Exports account for

about half of total production and have been rising rapidly, from a mere 310m francs in 1956 to 3,300m in 1970 and more than 8,000m last year. One forecast for this year is 14,000m francs, or about a quarter of all France's exports of equipment. No wonder, in these days of economic crisis, that arms sales have become so vital.

The industry is organized thus: about 20 per cent of all armaments are made by the industrial branch of the defence Ministry, 30 per cent by private firms and 30 per cent by state-owned firms operating on commercial lines.

The ministry's own output supplies most of the needs of the Army tanks, munitions and so on—as well as warships, while aircraft and missiles are made solely by outside firms. Dassault, with its electron campaign in May, urged that France should reduce its emphasis on arms exports, and in June he declared as President that France would not sell arms that might obstruct its diplomatic policy of supporting "the cause of liberty and the right of peoples to self-determination". So everyone expected a tightening of embargoes.

This kind of casuistry seems to have worried M. Giscard d'Estaing, who, even as Minister of Finance showed himself more reticent about such sales than some of his Gaullist colleagues. In May, his election campaign

had France favours coproductions that can help to share costs and widen markets, and hence its commitment to some recent projects now in mass production, such as the Anglo-French Jaguar support aircraft and the Franco-German Alphajet training aircraft. On the other hand its refusal to close liaison with Nato's Euro-group can make some forms of joint sale or coproduction more difficult.

It is true that there are still many Gaullists and others who argue that French sales have never suffered from the withdrawal from Nato. They point to the fact that when Nato countries chose the Starfighter rather than the Mirage 3 France simply turned to the rest of the world so as to make a huge commercial success of the Mirages.

According to this view, many Third World countries

would rather buy from France just because it is not in Nato. But other French experts believe that this argument is becoming less valid.

In the case of Greece, luckily for M. Giscard, the big arms contracts prepared

under M. Pompidou and signed in May need no longer

trouble his conscience now.

An important test case is that the colonels are gone. Inevitably, four Nato countries—Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway—have signed a close liaison with the Euro-group.

But significantly, the embo

rgo sales to Israel and Denmark and Norway take

its Arab neighbours has been a joint decision early next

independence.

If these nations reject the F1 MSS, will France be able to find enough orders elsewhere abroad to make the aircraft a sound economic proposition for its own air force? And if it decides to subsidize the F1 MSS for prestige reasons will it also be able to afford its other expensive new project now in the prototype phase, Dassault's twin-engined bomber known as the Avion Combat Futur (ACF), of which the French Air Force wants to order 20? Will not one or other finally have to be postponed or cancelled? This is the subject of much heart-searching in Paris.

The issue underlines the hazards of an arms policy that has shown brilliant results but remains basically vulnerable. Until now France has been able to equip its armed forces with the finest modern weapons by spreading the cost through export sales (at least in the non-nuclear field). It has managed this without sacrifice or its cherished politico-strategic independence.

However, production costs are now rising so fast that it may soon face a sterner choice: to foot a much larger bill for the armed forces, or to sacrifice a degree of independence through closer collaboration with Nato, or to sacrifice a degree of conscience through a bolder sales drive in countries that may want arms more than they deserve them. The realistic choices before him.

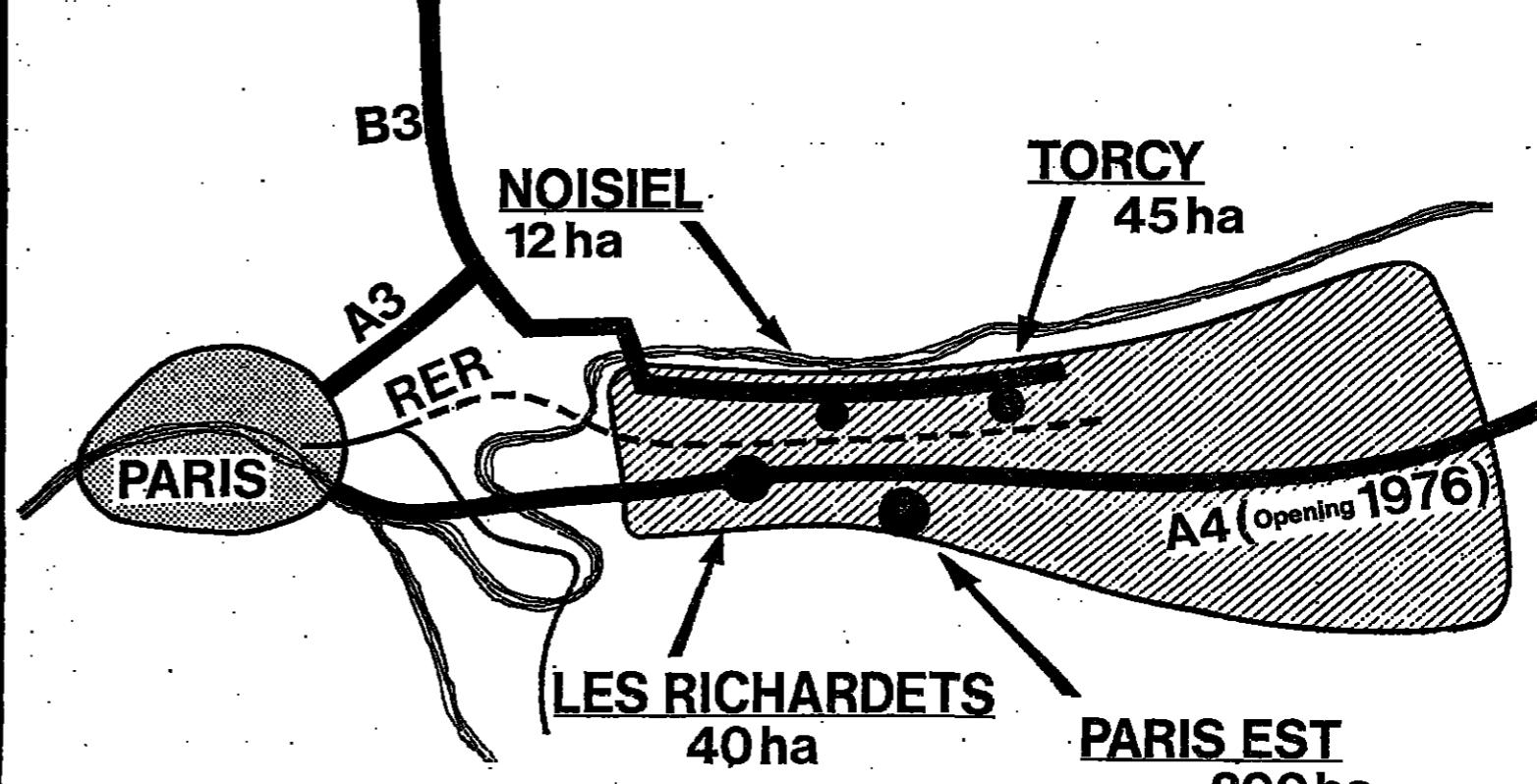
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On this page Margot Lyon looks at government policy on the environment, law and order, and women's rights

Crusader for better quality of life

The story is told in Paris that one fine afternoon a few years ago M. Giscard d'Estaing was walking back to his office at the Finance Ministry through the Tuilleries and flew into a rage when he spied the first signs of skyscrapers on the skyline beyond the Etoile, in the Defense area of western Paris. He pleaded with President Pompidou, it is said, against this desecration of the world's finest city vista, which stretches from the Louvre through the Tuilleries gardens and the Champs Elysees to the great arch of the Etoile.

But M. Pompidou believed that Paris must "marry the twentieth century". Tower buildings are now not only round La Defense but beside the Seine near the Mirabeau bridge. Another bows above the new Masséna-Montparnasse station; the tower of the university science faculty even looms close to Notre Dame.

M. Pompidou also believed that Frenchmen would never forgo their right to drive their cars into the city centres. He knew that this would result in congestion and pollution, but thought the best that could be done was to help traffic to flow as smoothly as possible. M. Giscard disagreed about the question of cars in cities, as about multi-storey blocks. But knowing the Frenchman's love for his *bagnole* he was cautious about cars during and after the campaign that won him the presidency. For instance, he raised the price of petrol by only five centimes a litre before the summer exodus although some advisers urged him to make the increase five times bigger.

Laws meant to be obeyed

M. Jarrot is responsible for tourism and leisure, youth and sport as well as for the environment. He admitted when he first met the press last June that the quality of life might sound an obscure idea, without any real significance. But he considered himself the Minister for Daily Life, with the mission to fight all the nuisances that affect the health and happiness of the ordinary citizen. Environmental questions interested him most, although they were hardest to show results. "It takes years to save a polluted river", he said.

However, he intended to get some quicker results by insisting on respect for laws that existed but were disobeyed. Industries neglected anti-pollution regulations because they were expensive.

such polluters by noise as ally with the quality of life.

He admitted that this was a bad time to enforce severe laws or impose heavy fines, wound up by saying that, with firms facing higher costs. But he intended to stick to the principle that was the only solution. M. Jarrot took up this theme in Brussels at a meeting of EEC ministers concerned with environmental matters.

Since M. Jarrot made these statements the President himself has given a warning that austerity looms ahead. They also discussed measures against waste. France and its partners will seek to economize energy and raw materials, and protect the environment at the same time, by developing the recycling of waste. In France a National Waste Disposal Agency is to be created. Local authorities will be equipped to collect and dispose of all waste in their areas.

End to throw-away society

As soon as suitable preparations are made, housewives will be taught on television to separate and classify rubbish, keeping paper separate and rinsing glass bottles and tins cans for special collection. Plastic containers will also be recycled.

Medium-term aims include guidance for consumers against shoddy goods and moves to improve the durability, maintenance and repair of consumer goods. We are leaving our throw-away society", M. Jarrot said.

By its nature M. Jarrot's action programme needs the cooperation of ministers outside the Cabinet. In this way his task resembles that of Mme Françoise Giroud, the minister in charge of women's affairs, but M. Jarrot has an extra problem. Nobody knows when President Giscard may step forward and act in his own name.

During the past few months the President has announced decrees direct from the Elysée over several environmental issues. He vetoed the express motorway along the Left Bank of the Seine and the construction of the big international trade centre on the site of Les Halles vegetable market. He forbade the sale of the Cité Fleurie, a private garden area in Montparnasse eyed by property speculators.

Many Parisians who approved these decisions thought they should have been carried out with at least a nod towards the city fathers and preferably through M. Jarrot's department. But they illustrated President Giscard's difficulty in achieving a balance between the general public.

On the question of noise

the aims are limited and realistic. M. Jarrot has studied the difficulties explored by Monsieur Silence, a civil servant named M. Yves Martin who in 1972 declared that it was impossible to achieve card's real and urgent desire effective protection against to concern himself personally with the quality of life.

Cost delays prison reforms

Armed robbery and other crimes of violence are increasing in France. Extremists, including Basques, Bretons and Corsicans plant bombs, though they cause infinitely less damage than the IRA.

In addition, normally law-abiding groups are turning to violence when they have a grievance: angry shopkeepers have ransacked and set fire to government offices, farmers and lorry drivers have blocked roads with burning tyres, factory workers have manhandled their bosses and locked them in their offices for days.

Most offenders are young men under 30. This age group is often responsible also for other offences on the increase, such as attacks on people in underground corridors late at night, robbery of homes, destruction or theft of cars.

The French police force is inadequate in numbers and resources to face the new waves of lawlessness. M. Michel Poniatowski, Minister of the Interior, organized raids during the summer in cities such as Paris, Lyons and Marseilles. Police stopped thousands of pedestrians and car passengers, checked their identities and examined their belongings.

The aim was to discourage offenders who could not know whether that night their city and their area might be the target for a swoop. It succeeded dramatically in compensating for a shortage of police. Lonely women were reassured.

But the public saw these massive police checks as an infringement of their civil liberties; there was an outcry, and M. Poniatowski evidently felt they marred the reputation he had gained throughout his public career as a firm champion of liberalism. Since the summer the raids have ceased.

One could say that M. Poniatowski was a victim of the realities of power. So was President Giscard when a comment he made to the press unexpectedly helped to start one of the new Government's first social problems, the wave of jail mutinies that spread like wildfire through 70 of France's prisons last June. But she M. Jean Leacuet, the new Minister of Justice, and the guarantor of law and order, M. Poniatowski, were overtaken by events when trouble began in mid-July.

Once again the young men under 30 set the pace. Almost half of France's prison population of 30,000 is 30 or younger, and these men tend to be better educated, more aware of their legal rights, and unprepared to accept the brutal contrast with their life outside.

A warden of 30 years' experience said on French television in the summer that young men had unheard of privileges these days, like sports grounds, magazines and books and even showers.

"They resent any discipline," he said. On the same programme a 42-year-old ex-convict who had served in three jails said the entire French system was "an inhuman machine that aimed from start to finish to degrade and destroy".

The wave of unrest involved 70 of France's 180

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reform's make an opera—starting right from zero

John Higgins

Englishwoman, a Hungarian by birth and a Swiss, running the Opera. George and Joan and I were all too often confronted by stickers saying "Méfiez-vous des Evangélistes".

But we persevered. I remember that we auditioned 750 singers in order to choose the chorus we now have [probably the best of any European opera house]. Fortunately, we had a success with our opening production, *Le nozze di Figaro*, staged by Giorgio Strehler and conducted by George; its 14 performances played to 103 per cent of capacity.

M Liebermann faced two main criticisms in that opening year. The first was an outside one: his rivals complained that he was paying over the odds to attract singers to Paris. He dismissed the objection. Fees are determined by the demands of six or seven houses, whose intendants meet together roughly twice a year.

"We share the same problems and we discuss them; we all know what the going rates are. Of Herr X or Madame Y are. Occasionally a singer will hold you to ransom when it is known that you are absolutely stuck for a part it's happening now as we speak."

The first move was to ask Georg Solti and persuade him to come as my adviser; we had one another for a time; indeed I was the engineer on the very record made in Switzerland. His reaction was to say that I was crazy, but I walked one Whitstable in and eventually he would accept if he bring with him Joan Winstanley, who was director of planning at Covent Garden.

In the Whit Sunday we down to Joan's cottage in the country and it was back to Paris where able to say: 'I've got it, now we can talk about it.' Those first weeks were busy. Paris is not always willing to foreigners and was our trio, an

"One of the first things I



did was to get Héroux to write *Dor, Prinz von Homberg*. Here I start with nothing and my prime job is to give Paris an orchestra and a group of singers, keeping them as stable as possible for a run of performances and sometimes for the revival of the following season as well.

"And we have to re-appraise the French repertoire. I want to rethink the masterpieces, some of which have never been seen here because they were traditionally the property of the Opéra-Comique, in exactly the same way that Wieland brought a new approach to Wagner in the 1950s and 1960s.

"Patrice Chéreau has done this with *Hoffmann* and I'm hoping for an equally inventive *Carmen* in 1977. Next season as you know, we open with *Samson et Dalila*."

M Liebermann has based as understudies and for the

comprimario roles. It is a policy which saves quite a lot of money.

Money is the chief problem at Paris and at practically every other major opera house; currently it is preventing the reopening of the Opéra-Comique. M Liebermann will probably make use of the second theatre for at least an occasional performance.

"Where else does one put on *Les Mamelles de Tirésias*, for example—a condition for re-signing in Paris when his contract expires next summer. But there is also likely to be more exchange of productions.

"We may well be forced into that anyhow. I've discussed it with La Scala, which is an ideal house in practical terms because they have a big stage, as we do, and a similar rake.

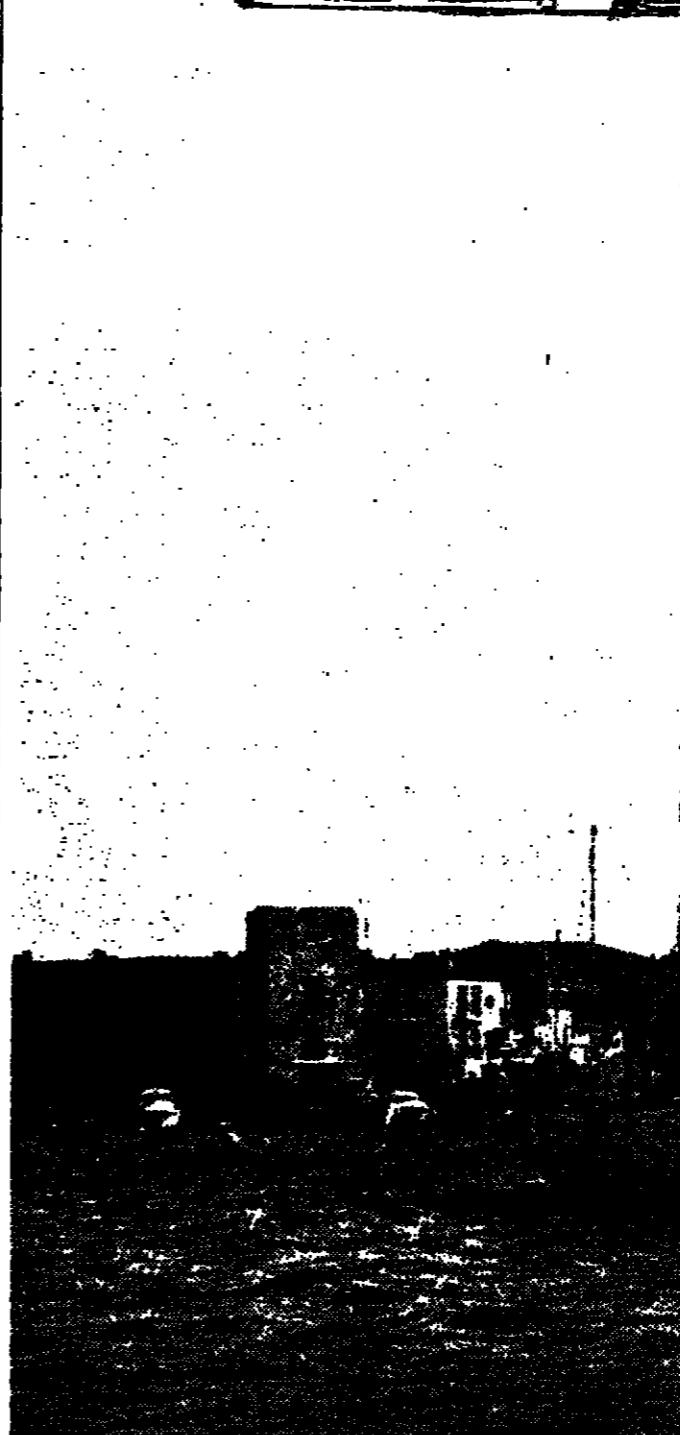
"Our first thoughts were that we could share costs, although I'm not now convinced, after taking into account transport fees, that there will be any great saving of money. What worries me more is the sheer impossibility of getting on stage the five or six new productions any major house should have a season, when the working week for the labour force is getting shorter and shorter.

"Exchange seems to be the answer but, of course, we're now looking four or five years ahead. That same could go for the ballet."

For the moment M Liebermann is pleased that he has turned the Opéra once more into a normal working house with its own—and surprisingly, for Paris—punctual rhythm. He has some important evenings to look forward to, including an admirably cast *Forze del Destino* early next year produced by John Dexter, whom M Liebermann has championed since his Hamburg days.

Georg Solti's *Otello* with Domingo and Margaret Price follows in the spring of 1976; the King starts the same year and is to be given in full by the end of 1977.

كذا من الأصل



Port Grimaud, a luxury development between St Tropez and Ste Maxime.

Books discount gamble proves sales success

Nick Jossin

press

per cent discount on this is at once a challenge and a challenge is revolutionizing publishing and bookselling in France. The challenge has been thrown down by the Fédération Nationale d'Action Cadres (national executive purchasing federation), of large stores which been selling photographic equipment, domestic

appliances, records, sports equipment, and other goods at a discount for 20 years.

Last March, it inaugurated a new line: books, in a books department covering more than 1,000 sq metres in its most recently opened store in the rue de Rennes near Saint-Germain-des-Prés. This is the second largest bookshop in France and, in line with policy in other departments, books are being sold at 20 per cent below publishers' recommended prices.

This represents a challenge to the traditional booksellers who are still selling at recommended prices in 25,000 sales outlets in France, 1,000 of which are bookshops in the strict sense. In principle, retailers are free to sell at lower prices. In the past, large stores have offered books for sale at greatly reduced prices, up to 30 per cent or even 40 per cent off. However, such practices were exceptional to attract customers for other products.

FNAC, on the other hand, is selling all its books without exception at a 20 per cent discount as soon as they are published.

On learning of FNAC's bookselling policy, the trade throughout France mobilized. They managed to win the publishers to their cause, but failed to convince the Government of the desirability of introducing a system of price maintenance along the lines of that applied in Britain.

The FNAC bookshop opened on March 12. The trade watched and waited. Would it be a success with the public? Would it be a commercial success? The first of these questions has already been answered in the affirmative. Buyers have flocked to rue de Rennes, the sales staff have been run off their feet and stocks have run out on several occasions. Turnover for the year had been forecast at 150,000 francs, but this will be doubled. Whereas FNAC had expected to sell 4,000 books a day, present sales are between 9,000 and 14,000 a day. By the summer, the management were able to make an initial assessment. They were overwhelmed by the scale of their success, although the arrangements to combat shoplifting were not efficient enough, the premises were too small and there were shortcomings in the data-processing system. They closed shop during the August holiday period, reorganized and enlarged the premises.

Their success continued when they reopened and there could be better to come.

Following the example set by FNAC, several large stores, the Carrefour chain in particular, have launched into discount bookselling. The final verdict, however, depends on the trading results. It is not enough to sell; one must also make profits and it is here that an element of doubt still remains. A 20 per cent discount leaves only a slender margin. Nevertheless, M. Marc Théret, one of the FNAC founders, is categorical: "There will be a loss in 1974, as expected, but we shall return to profitability in 1975."

The booksellers who have always deplored the FNAC experiment are still hoping that it will collapse. They are condemning it with all the usual arguments invoked by small traders against large stores while maintaining that they themselves fulfil an irreplaceable function as outlets for the works of new writers and works of research ignored by the large stores. They say that publishers will in time increase their prices; grant bigger discounts and discounts on discounts, which can be as much as 40 per cent of turnover, to large sales outlets.

They believe that all that marketing consultants, they have just launched a plan to reorganize their profession, to increase profitability, close shops which are too small and adopt new management methods.

In this respect, the emergence of FNAC will no doubt have provided a rude but salutary awakening for a sleepy profession, since the trade. It remains to be seen whether or not the experiment will be profitable and, FNAC agree, have decided to if so, whether it will have strengthened their defences, the harmful effects claimed Acting on the advice of its detractors.

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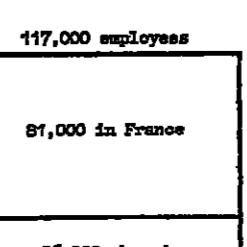
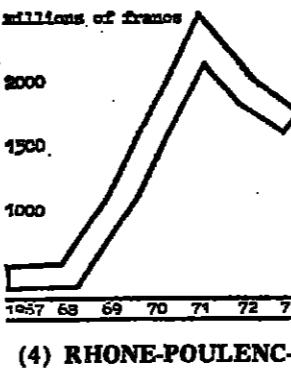
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This reorganisation should encourage foreign development policy, one of the Group's major objectives.

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● in numerous fields of activities:

BREAKDOWN OF THE 1973 TURNOVER PER SECTOR OF ACTIVITIES

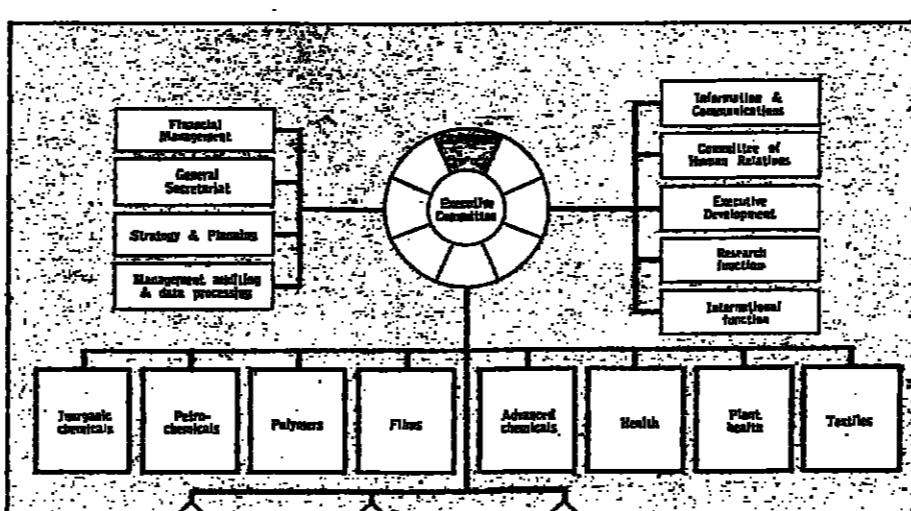
9% Inorganic chemicals
24% Miscellaneous chemicals
13% Plastics
5% Agricultural chemicals
12% Pharmaceuticals
4% Plastic films
33% Textiles

● with products manufactured and/or sold on all continents

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL TURNOVER	
F. 14,643 million	1973
Manufactured and sold in France	47%
Manufactured in France and sold abroad	27%
Manufactured and sold abroad	26%

BREAKDOWN OF THE TURNOVER ABROAD	
F. 7,761 million	1973
Europe 57%	
America 27%	
Asia, Australasia 8%	
Africa 3%	

Organisation Chart of the Rhône-Poulenc Group



(2) PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL STATISTICS

(in millions of French francs)	1972	1973	%
Turnover (excluding value added Tax)	12,259	14,643	+ 19.4
Cash flow*	1,331	1,814	+ 36.3
Income before minority interests	308	593	+ 92.5
Net earnings—Rhône-Poulenc SA	263	565	+ 114.7
Income per share (in francs) Rhône-Poulenc SA	13.9	29.8	+ 114.7
Investment in property, plant and equipment	1,899	1,689	- 11

* Net income † provisions and depreciation

French and English versions of the 1973 Annual Report of the Group may be obtained from: Direction des Relations Extérieures, Rhône-Poulenc S.A., 22 avenue Montaigne, 75360 PARIS CEDEX 08.

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E UNFERTILE CRESCENT

s between Government and industry were a problem for Conservative administration. It is rapidly becoming clear that the same problem is under the effectiveness of the Government.

Without to take over old ashes or realize the issue, the after Mr Heath created Ministry of Trade and putting Mr John Davies in, was an unhappy period in history. It was a of procrastination and errors, not by any means Mr Davies's fault. Wilson should by now be hat, within his Government is the makings of a similar situation. There are able, effective and iced ministers in his cabinet. The promise of the Ministers most directly concerned with industrial problems, at Industry, Mr Shore e, Mr Varley at Energy.

Foot at Employment, indicate that there are ental weaknesses in these areas of policy. en has been firmly (and by his own choice) estab- the bogey man of the this context, however, it is relevant where Mr Benn to stand in the political n. There can be effective ; politicians and s. They can press for effectively implement lefties. The criticism of is not related to his persuasions, but to his as a practical depart- minister since February, respect, his reputation as r of Technology in the last Government was high. ie it is low and falling, first charge relates to le. Whatever Mr Benn or tish Aircraft Corporation y, to the contrary, Con- disastrous failed to even severely curtailed

forecasts of its market potential. In short, there is no way in which the Concorde programme can be continued on anything that can even be presented as a "commercial" basis. There has for months been an urgent need to take firm decisions about the future of this project.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Government's action, or lack of action, in respect of Concorde has been greatly and banefully influenced by the constituency interests of Mr Benn. Administration and the public interest have, as a result, been badly served.

There are, in addition, other specific instances where Mr Benn's preoccupation with the virtues of syndicalism and the interests of organized labour have led to what can only be described as bungling. In the case of the Meriden Co-operative, Mr Benn first enthusiastically promised Government support and money, only to discover that Norton Villiers Triumph workers at Birmingham, hotly opposed the establishment of such a competing manufacturer of motor cycles. Mr Benn has had to retire to reconsider his entire strategy.

In the case of the instrument manufacturers, George Kent, General Electric Company to make a bid, in order to head off a takeover by the Swiss concern, Brown Boveri. In this there was something of an echo of the Industrial Reorganization Corporation under the last Labour Government, which tended to promote "British" solutions to industrial problems. Yet, when the workers of George Kent indicated that they seemingly preferred to be taken over by the Swiss, rather than by Sir Arnold Weinstock, Mr Benn decided to reverse his strategy.

The list could be continued. Whatever the very real difficulties, there are criticisms of the

way in which Mr Benn and Mr Shore handled the crisis of Court Line. The substantial point, however, is that in practice neither the Whitehall machine, nor the industrialists who must deal with it, are being given the impression of coherence and stability.

In the case of Mr Foot the problem is that he, too, shows weakness and a positive eagerness to accept every claim of organized labour. It is not his views which matter, but his lack of administrative capacity. In the large scale it is a small point, but his department's attack on the management of the nationalized company, Rolls-Royce, for conceding wage increases in the face of industrial troubles, when the tactics of the situation had apparently been discussed beforehand, is not evidence of the sort of relationship with a Minister of the Crown which industrialists need and rightly expect.

Mr Varley's difficulties are of a different order. He is neither confused nor indecisive. It remains, however, our opinion that the thrust of his co-ordinated energy policy will cause massive industrial problems for a decade and more to come. Of the four Ministers he may well prove the most efficient and the most disastrous. He has openly embraced a policy, based on a massive expansion of the domestic coal industry. In doing so, he was responding to a personal and political conviction about the future of the industry. In industrial terms, however, he has and is putting the security of energy supply in the medium term at needless risk, and at very great risk.

Mr Wilson is an astute politician, with a keen feel of political balance. He will do well to heed the evidence that, in this central area of policy, his team is so badly unbalanced that it threatens to undermine much of the rest of his Government's policy.

Mr Wilson is an astute politician, with a keen feel of political balance. He will do well to heed the evidence that, in this central area of policy, his team is so badly unbalanced that it threatens to undermine much of the rest of his Government's policy.

Visit of the Czech delegation

From Mr Winston S. Churchill, Conservative MP for Streatham.

Sir, My Parliamentary colleague Mr W. T. Williams (November 19) in his capacity as Chairman of the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, seeks to defend his group's decision to invite the so-called "Parliamentary" delegation from Czechoslovakia to visit Britain this week. I cannot agree that this visit is not being used to permit a totalitarian government to parade as a democracy.

Not only is the Czechoslovak Government totalitarian but, more objectionable still, it is a Quisling government that is the creature of the Soviet forces of occupation, which according to the latest estimates available to the Institute for Strategic Studies currently number 90,000 men in five divisions with 1,400 tanks (by comparison the British Army has an overall total of only 900 tanks).

Mr Williams must misunderstand the purpose of the IPU if he believed

that the visit of the Czechoslovak delegation this week, six years after the Soviet invasion and occupation

of Czechoslovakia, in any way fur-

thered the interests of Parliamentary

democracy. Indeed the visit is no

less objectionable than would have

been a similar delegation from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. Have the

authors of this misguided invitation

paused to consider the feelings of

those Czechoslovak patriots who

even now languish in prison and

labour camps and the millions of

the Czechoslovak people who yearn

to be free?

Those of us who look forward to

the day when we can welcome to

the mother of Parliaments a Czechoslovak delegation representing the

free Parliament of a free people, can

only express their deep regret that

the British Parliament should be

invited to connive at a grisly

charade.

Yours faithfully,

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL,

House of Commons,

November 19.

From Mr J. Josten

Sir, Mr W. T. Williams's lecture to

Bernard Levin (November 19) is to

the purpose of the Inter-Parliament-

ary Union's existence would be impressive if it contained some evidence of the union's achievements in the nearly 100 years of its life. I have discussed this matter with one of Mr Williams's predecessors, Colonel Stoddart Scott, MP, after his group's decision to invite the so-called "Parliamentary" delegation from Czechoslovakia to visit Britain this week. I heard the same arguments.

Yet when I pointed out that in spite of fraternizing with their Soviet counterparts (sic) the USSR was guilty of aggression against the Baltic States whose independence it destroyed; that the Soviets had attacked Finland, sent tanks to Berlin, massacred Hungarians and committed breaches of every known treaty and charter they ever signed, not to mention the fighting of local wars by proxy, arming guerrillas the world over and, finally, attacking and occupying Czechoslovakia (another country with IPU membership), I could not but suggest that their methods of coexistence have utterly failed.

I asked, too, whether there was

not needed, perhaps a different approach, eg, upholding the IPU's own Charter which invalidates membership of unelected groups masquerading as parliamentarians.

The argument ended with a statement to the effect that if the Russians and their satellites were not members of the IPU, there would be little sense in holding IPU conferences without them.

And these conferences and exchange visits are, I am sure, what Mr Levin had in mind when he wrote of "free trips" and "free-loading MPs".

Yours sincerely,

J. JOSTEN, Secretary,

Free Czechoslovakia Campaign,

4 Holland Road, W14 8AZ.

From Mr T. H. Whittingham

Sir, I was deeply moved by Mr W. T. Williams' exposition of the principles that motivate the Inter-Parliamentary Union. When will they be inviting a delegation from the South African Parliament?

I am Sir, Yours etc,

T. H. WHITTINGHAM,

8 Park Close,

North Weald,

Epping, Essex.

Over one third of the women in

the camps were pregnant and some

five hundred of them expect to be

delivered within the next two to

three months. Care, both ante and

post-natal, leaves much to be

desired. The reported infant death

rate is very high and not all of the

deaths occurring in the lines are

notified.

In one camp employment has

been well organized by running

continuous classes in art, carpet

weaving, dress making, woodwork

and mechanical engineering. Every

effort is being made to provide

schooling for the children and they

are being taught the Kurdish

language.

It is unfortunate that the young

women have not been encouraged

to take up para-medical work. The

burden on the doctors could be

greatly relieved if training were

spared in order to provide suitable

brick buildings before the onset of

winter.

The food supply is good in quality

and quantity. Hot showers are

available each day in two of the

camps and in the third, where there

is a water shortage, transport is

arranged to take the people to baths

in the nearest town. Medical care

is under the control of the Kurds

themselves and I considered that

their organization could be considerably

improved.

Many of the refugees, after privation and escape from bombing and missile attacks, arrived in Iran in a poor state of health or frankly ill, with their resistance to disease greatly lowered. Consequently, outbreaks of gastro-enteritis, typhoid and the enteric group of fevers and infective hepatitis have in the camps reached epidemic proportions.

The precarious treatment of malaria is a matter for grave concern because of the danger of producing resistant strains of the parasite.

Many of the children appeared

anemic and underweight despite

the adequate rations and a number

had enlarged cervical glands.

Coughs, colds and sore throats were

common. These children provide

fertile ground for the spread of

tuberculosis from open cases of

the disease in the three camps.

I trust that in their hour of peril

they will not desert them.

Yours sincerely,

ALEXANDER DRUMMOND,

Chase Lodge,

27 North Side,

Clapham Common, SW4.

November 17.

stories, the books are written with

specific constraints of sentence

structure, vocabulary, and selection

and presentation of concepts.

As to the selection of subjects for

the biographical sub-series of

Starters, we have chosen people

whose lives and achievements are

likely to be exciting and intelligible

to young readers, and about whom

they will learn more in later life.

Our educational advisers confirmed

that Mao Ts'e-Tung would make an

excellent subject to be introduced

to primary school children.

We do think that Mr Levin is

being unfair, he is applying adult

criteria to a text that was carefully

written for young readers. We have

not set out to be politically mischievous or to publish propaganda.

Our aim is to publish lively informative

books that will give pleasure and satisfaction to the youngster.

Yours sincerely,

TOM BOARDMAN, Jr., Managing

Director, Macdonald Educational,

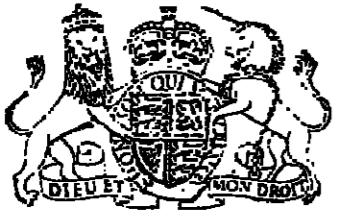
St Giles House,

49-50 Poland Street, W1.

November 19.

party was hopping forward in the

<p



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 20: Mr Mervyn Brown was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands upon his appointment as British High Commissioner in Tanzania.

Mrs Brown had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Marylebone Cricket Club, was entertained at lunch and subsequently attended a meeting of the Committee of the Marylebone Cricket Club.

Captain Vyvyan Harmsworth was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales was present this evening at a Gala Music Hall given by the Variety Club of Great Britain at the Lyceum Ballroom.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 20: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the Royal College of Music, of which Her Majesty is President, and presented awards to the Senior Students.

The Lady Elizabeth Bassett and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this evening honoured the Governor (Mr Gordon Richardson) and members of the Court of Directors with her presence at the Bank of England.

The Lady Elizabeth Bassett and Sir Martin Gillian were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

November 20: The Duke of Kent today visited EMI Electronics Limited at Feltham.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this evening attended the Potters' Charitable Corporation Festival Dinner at the Connaught Rooms.

Mrs Alan Henderson was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK

November 20: Princess Alexandra was present this evening at a dinner and dance for the staff and supporters of the National Kidney Research Fund, of which Her Royal Highness is Patron, at the London Hilton.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the International conference of the Engineering Society at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster, on November 26.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel of the Scots Guards, will visit the 2nd Battalion at Pirbright on November 27.

A memorial service for Mr Eric Linklater will be held in King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen, on Saturday, December 7, at 2.30 p.m.

The Governors of Tonbridge School announce that they have appointed Mr C. H. D. Everett, Headmaster of Tonbridge School, in His Majesty's service, from September 1, 1975, in succession to Dr R. M. Ogilvie, who at the end of the current academic year will be leaving the school to become Professor of Humanity in the University of St Andrews.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. G. S. Anderson and Miss S. Ketchum

The marriage will take place shortly in Bangkok, Thailand, between Robert Gavin Stewart, son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Stewart Anderson and Mrs. Anderson, Britannia Square, Worcester, and Sally, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs D. M. Newman, of Willowdale, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Mr R. Bayne and Miss S. Winstanley

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on December 20, at Stroud, between Rodney, eldest son of the late Major F. Lloyd Bayne, MC, and Mrs Bayne, of Bucklebury, and Sandra, third daughter of Mr and Mrs James Winstanley, of Ingoldby Court, Birkington.

Mr A. D. Brierty and Miss P. J. Clarke

The engagement is announced between Alan David, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. B. Brierty, of Gorse Bank, Oldham, Lancashire, and Philippa Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G. H. J. Clarke, of Ingoldby Court, Birkington.

Mr J. P. Galy and Miss D. Hoare

The engagement is announced between Jean-Pierre, eldest son of M. and Mme Maurice Galy, of Faurotoune, Ariège, and New Zealand, and Darva, daughter of the late Reginald A. Hoare and Mrs Reginald Hoare, of London, SW7.

Mr C. E. M. Giberton and Miss A. J. Vaughan

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Mark Giberton, of Heywoods Station, Shropshire, Saye, near Reading, and Astrid, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Vaughan, DSO, DL, and Mrs Vaughan, of Showborough House, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Dr S. J. M. Hartley and Miss C. E. Sherry

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Dr and Mrs L. B. P. Hartley, of Rhyl, and Cecilia, daughter of Mrs E. Sherry, of Blackpool.

Mr E. G. M. Hedge and Miss C. E. Hallett

The engagement is announced between Miles, younger son of Mr J. E. Hedge, of Avoca Beach, New South Wales, and of the late Mrs Hedge, and Carolyn, of late Mrs Hedges, and Astrid, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Vaughan, DSO, DL, and Mrs Vaughan, of Showborough House, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Mr P. R. Lemanski and Miss J. A. A. Dawes

The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs I. Lemanski, of Morden, Surrey, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Dawes, of Ispen Farm, Ispen, Oxfordshire.

Marriages

Mr A. H. A. Cecil and Miss J. E. Holbrook

The marriage took place in London on November 20 of Mr Anthony Cecil of 69 Park Walk, SW3, and Miss Jane Holbrook, of 71 Park Walk, SW3.

Mr R. M. C. McNair-Wilson, MP, and Mrs D. E. Granville

The marriage took place quietly in the Crym Chapel at the House of Commons on Wednesday, November 20, between Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, MP, and Mrs Deidre Granville. Canon David Edwards, Chaplain to the Speaker, officiated, assisted by Father David Donnelly. Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson, MP, was best man. The honeymoon will be spent in Venice.

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A memorial service for Mr Eric Linklater will be held in King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen, on Saturday, December 7, at 2.30 p.m.

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Lunge by Swiss franc after return of penalties on foreign deposits

Elwyn Westlake
An abrupt about-turn which has far-reaching consequences for the reputation of banking, the Government is to reimpose penalties

on October 31 Swiss banks were permitted to pay interest again on resident deposits, after a year ban.

A retrospective measure, it will be widely resented, since 31 will now receive a penalty deduction of 3 cent each three months.

Foreigners encouraged to move money in Switzerland now lose money. The result of yesterday's announcement in the early afternoon, was the Swiss franc plunging by the close of trading to a loss of almost 12 francs or 4 per cent against the dollar, sharply reversing the rise of the Swiss franc interest payments were owed last month.

It is suggested by some sources in New York that the Swiss Government only acted after substantial pressure had been applied by the United States government.

The policies of all three countries have appeared to be at odds during the last week, and this is bound to be a big consideration when representatives from the Group of Ten (the leading industrialised countries) meet in Paris for discussions today.

Herr Fritz Leutwiler, president of the general directorate of the Swiss National Bank, said after the Cabinet meeting at which it was decided to restore penalties, that the government's decision was because the Swiss franc "remains a currency of refuge", and the present inflow appeared to be more than a passing phenomenon.

More than \$25,000m (about £10,890m) of oil revenue is likely to be looking for a home in the last three months of this year. The closing of the Swiss banking door will not make this easier.

Petrodollar talks, page 18

Two of Nation Life committee resign

ohn Plender
st night the tangled affairs of failed Nation Life Insurance Group took a new turn: two members of the committee of inspection set up by the company went into nation announced their resignation.

They are Mr David Jackson, founded a Nation Life policyholders' protection committee earlier this year, and Mr Alan Hobson, his colleague in committee.

a letter to the liquidator, Gerhard Weiss of Cork & Co. Mr Jackson said while he and Mr Hobson had that Nation Life's position was extremely complex they felt they no longer any alternative but to run the informal protection committee.

A move is intended as a protest against the lack of confidence with which Mr Jackson claims the Department of the Government and the insurance industry have treated issue.

In his letter he stressed that task of sorting out the any had been made more difficult by the Government's plan to exclude Nation Life its plan for a rescue fund the insurance industry.

A letter also describes as

"highly disturbing" the unpublished legal opinion taken by the liquidator dealing with the rights of property bond holders.

It is believed that the opinion suggests it might be impossible to separate the assets in the property bond fund so that the fall in property values is shouldered by property bond holders alone.

If this unexpected interpretation of a point of law had to be applied by the committee of inspection, "the letter states, we would consider it to be both unfair and unrealistic. As such, we would find it difficult to assist you as liquidator in your duty to carry this out."

In addition, Mr Jackson and his colleagues feel that the contents of letter from the policyholders' protection committee, unofficially approved by Mr Weiss and a senior member of the insurance industry, could now prove misleading. It was circulated on October 10 and was more optimistic than now appears justified.

News of the resignations, which have been undertaken with "the greatest regret", comes after a pessimistic progress report from the liquidator two weeks ago.

Unless the Government chooses to intervene, the future of the 35,000 policyholders' funds will remain in doubt

Repayment likely soon to Clarkson travellers

By David Leigh

Clarkson customers and other holidaymakers who lost money in the Court Line crash should get their money back before the end of the year, the Association of British Travel Agents announced yesterday following a day-long meeting of the ABTA national council.

The difficulty of drawing up a scheme which the Government could agree to and get on the statute book quickly has been considerable, however, and there is no guarantee that the Government will agree to ABTA's proposals.

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, said in the House of Commons earlier this week that it was not yet possible to put a date on legislation under which a medium-term loan would be made to the travel trade in order to pay back Court Line customers.

One of the points of contention is the way the money should be raised and paid back to the Government. It has been suggested that a levy on future holidaymakers would be required.

The Government will have to find at least £4m to finance the payout.

At yesterday's creditors' meeting of Clarksons, the leading holiday company involved, the official receiver disclosed that £4.5m was owed to holidaymakers. Clarksons had liabilities, on first estimates, between £17m and £27m, depending on guarantees of foreign hotel leases and cancellation penalties being called upon.

The company's assets were £3.6m, and £3.2m of this consisted of payments for holidays, mainly still in the hands of travel agents. The fate of this money, virtually Clarksons' only assets, will probably depend on legal action by the Court Line liquidator.

Further sums of money will be disclosed as due to holidaymakers at future creditors' meetings of Court Line subsidiaries, the next of which is fixed for November 28.

Mr Reginald Law, spokesman for the Court Line Action Group, said last night he was annoyed the group had not been invited to the Clarksons' creditors' meeting. However, soon legislation came in, he thought it would be impossible to complete a pay-out to holidaymakers before Easter.

"They should all be paid out as quickly as possible," he said. "People have already lost a holiday for this year."

Lloyd's alter income rules to meet inflation

By Peter Wainwright

Lloyd's of London has altered its qualifications for membership. From next April, members wanting to underwrite an annual premium income of more than £100,000 will have to put down higher deposits with Lloyd's while the basic means test for foreign nationals will go up from £100,000 to £25,000.

The Committee of Lloyd's is trying to make sure that members do not write business they cannot afford at a time when the value of risks, and the ultimate liability, is escalating.

At the same time, however, a new class of members will be introduced on January 1, 1976, to be confined to British names resident in the United Kingdom.

These new members will be required to show wealth of only £37,500 but by wealth Lloyd's mean assets that can easily be turned into cash. Only part of the value of a house, for example will be accepted. The show of wealth will also need an accountant's certificate.

To keep the new members' business within prudent bounds they will have to lodge with Lloyd's a greater proportion of their total wealth than richer members.

A rich member with wealth of £75,000 and a deposit of £15,000 can write annual premiums of up to ten times his deposit. The new class of member will only be able to write up to five times the £15,000.

And even the traditional members will now have to show increasing wealth and make bigger deposits when he goes above £150,000 in premium income.

Land & General to coopt directors

Directors of Land & General, the property group controlled by Miss Penny Brahms, a former model, have agreed to coopt three independent directors to the board while the Takeover Panel adjourns its deliberations on the group's case until December 12.

This was the outcome of yesterday's meeting of the full Panel attended by Miss Brahms and her legal representatives. They were asked to explain why a previous Panel ruling calling for the enfranchisement of the non-voting shares in Land & General, had been ignored.

"They should all be paid out as quickly as possible," he said. "People have already lost a holiday for this year."

Hoare & Co, Govett shows £23,000 loss

Hoare & Co, Govett, a leading London stockbroking firm, last night disclosed an after-tax loss of £23,000 for the year to June 7 against a taxed profit of £48,000 in the previous year.

For the current year, the firm says that to date it has made a small trading loss which should be counterbalanced by extraordinary items in the profit and loss account.

Neither the TUC nor the Government was having much success in the area of wage restraints, it was pointed out.

Mr Ralph Bateman, president of the CBI, said: "If the Government can't find the way, and it's their duty to govern, and the TUC can't find the way, it is very unlikely that the CBI by itself could find the way."

"There might be more hope if all the parties got together. Mr Bateman said that unless industry

Woolworth profits slip by 41 pc

By Financial Staff

After a 28 per cent setback in pre-tax profits at the interim stage, the third quarter total at F. W. Woolworth slipped by more than 41 per cent to £5.65m before inclusion of capital profits of £4.82m. These largely relate to a property deal in the third quarter.

Sales during the three months to end-October increased by 15 per cent after a very sluggish performance earlier in the year. At the halfway stage they were ahead by only 9.5 per cent.

The erosion of margins is attributed by the company to sharply rising costs, with wages during the third quarter 37 per cent ahead of those for the previous corresponding period, while other overheads rose by 26 per cent. The directors are hoping, in the final quarter, for "a continuation of the present trend of higher sales to offset increased operating costs".

In all Woolworth raised £10m the property deal which involved the sale of a 75 per cent stake in 11 of its stores to a leading pension fund. The stores were simultaneously leased back at 75 per cent of the market rate.

Financial Editor, page 19

Mr Simon rules out reflationalary action despite evidence of sharp decline in output

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Nov 20

The Ford Administration firmly resisted calls for immediate action at this time. Mr William Simon, Treasury Secretary, said today.

His comments come just as mounting evidence appears of sharp declines in industrial production, with car manufacturers, among very redundant and some industries placing substantial production cuts.

Mr Simon stated in remarks prepared for a briefing to women's organizations that "the situation we are in now is different from previous recessions. During earlier economic downturns the government could easily switch over to stimulative policies because the inflation rate was tolerable. That is not now the case".

The Treasury chief added that "our primary concern has to be avoid worsening the already

Threshold agreements push up earnings and hourly rates

By Tim Congdon

Earnings rose by 1.9 per cent in September from an August figure which has itself been revised upwards 0.2 per cent, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Employment.

The rise in hourly rates during October also increased. It was 1.4 per cent, compared with 0.5 per cent in September and 4.1 per cent in August. About four-fifths of the increase last month was attributable to more payments under threshold agreements.

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Price Code amendment on profit rates urged

By Edward Townsend
Immediate action to amend the Price Code was called for yesterday by the Association of Engineering Distributors to prevent the industry from being "strangled literally to death, by the ravages of inflation".

Mr Anthony Headland, newly elected president, urged an alleviation of the code clause which forces the distributive and retail trades to reduce gross profit rates by 10 per cent.

Addressing the association's annual lunch in London, he said profits should not be regarded as real unless they could contribute to the growth of a company. The acceptance in the Budget that such profits were illusory should be seen as a signal to amend the Price Code "before the distribution trade starts to tread the path to bankruptcy".

Anomaly plea: Lord Redmayne, chairman of the Retail Consortium, said yesterday that the changes to the Price Code proposed by Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, would produce a situation which would border on the absurd, David Young writes.

Speaking at Stratford-on-Avon at the annual meeting of the National Institute of Hardware, he said the proposal to allow retailers to increase their gross margin up to 5 per cent over their reference level so that they could restore their net margin, if they could, to 75 per cent would produce an anomaly. Lord Redmayne will undoubtedly put forward his and the consortium's views on the proposed changes to the code more forcibly when he meets the minister today.

He said yesterday the proposals would create a "snakes and ladders" situation. The 75 per cent safety net would become a 75 per cent maximum.

The sensible alternative is that net profit should be permitted to rise to the reference level, but gross should taper from the 105 per cent permitted."

Unions to share Midland rights

The National Union of Bank Employees has been given negotiating rights for managers in the Midland Bank, an area which has been hotly contested between the union and Mr Clive Jenkins' Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

Wage bargaining for the managers will now be shared between the two unions. Last year, in an effort to break into the banking field, ASTMS took over the Midland Bank Staff Association, but the move has failed to win for its union the hoped-for sole bargaining position for the bank's employees.

The recently-formed Midland Bank Managers' Association has been dissolved, and the two outside unions are expected to engage in a tough battle to pick up its members. The Association claimed about 1,000 of the bank's 2,500 managers, and NUBE claimed about 500.

Business appointments

Five new directors for Rio Tinto-Zinc

Lord Carrington, Mr A. E. Buxton, Mr P. H. Dean, Mr D. Edmonds and Mr A. J. G. Fawcett joined the board of Rio Tinto-Zinc. Mr W. D. Mulholland has resigned from the board.

Mr Kenneth Taylor, secretary of the Price Commission, is to be the secretary of the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Mr John Battaglia has been made director of Slater, Walker Properties.

Mr D. A. R. Phiri has been appointed managing director of Ronan Consolidated Mines in place of Mr J. L. Reid who has resigned.

Mr A. P. Ross has become marketing manager of Dunlop Belgium.

Mr D. W. Bloomfield has been made general manager of Estates and General Investments, after the retirement of Mr C. G. Smith.

Mr P. B. Prowling and Mr Bloomfield have been appointed directors of all subsidiary companies.

Mr J. E. Bishop has been made group treasurer of International Computers.

Mr Jeremy Knight is to be group financial controller of Redman Bevan International.

Mr D. K. G. Kirby has been managing director of Reckitts Trans.

Mr S. Race has been elected deputy president of the Glass Manufacturers Federation.

Mr Larry Park joins Business Computers (Systems) as director of software services.

Mr Alistair Johnston, who has been managing director designate of Fermitrade since April, is to take over as managing director on January 1 on the retirement of Mr Horace Burlingham.

Mr M. J. H. Maughan has been appointed a director of E. W. Sturge (Motor Underwriting) and A. L. Sturge (Services). Mr R. F. Limage has been appointed a director of A. L. Sturge (Holdings) and Mr J. W. Clark, director of Mr H. Sturge (Services).

Mr John Lowe has been made managing director and a member of the board of St Regis International. Mr Kenneth Butcher has been appointed director of purchasers.

Mr S. Druse has resigned from the board of Miles Druse & Co.

Group of Ten deputies discuss proposal for petrodollar fund

From Richard Wigg
Paris, Nov 20

Group of Ten countries of the International Monetary Fund, meeting at deputies' level in Paris, today began discussing the United States proposal for an International oil loan facility of \$25,000m (about £10,730m), designed to help western industrialized countries live with their massive oil balance of payments deficit problem.

Mr Jack Bennett, Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs, explained the American initiative for recycling the oil dollars first mentioned by Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, in a speech in Chicago last week.

The Americans were thus developing their second initiative in Paris within a few days designed to mobilize the chief consumer countries to a concerted response to the problems raised by the producers' quintupling of oil prices over the past year. The American-sponsored international Energy Agency held its first meeting in Paris on Monday.

Group of Ten deputies took over from a review of the American proposal earlier to

day by the balance of payments committee of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The deputies began their discussions this afternoon at the OECD and will conclude the two-day session tomorrow in the IMF's Paris offices. All this is no accident: the United States wants the new loan fund—technically it is still being called only a facility or mechanism—to be operated by the OECD, which groups 24 rich western nations, and not by the 130-member nation IMF, where oil producers head a long list of developing countries.

The Group of Ten also heard today about a separate scheme Mr Emil van Lennep, OECD Secretary-General, has been quietly canvassing among the 24 governments during the past few weeks. Several points are in common with the American proposal, which envisages the member governments raising loans on the international market on behalf of the future fund which would, in turn, be fed by recycled oil dollars.

Dr Otfmar Emminger, vice-president of the West German

Federal Bank and chairman of OECD's balance of payments committee, today urged quick preparations for institutional recycling of the oil dollars.

Although moderately optimistic that financing of the consumer countries' deficits for the next few months could be adequately handled by the existing market and bank operations, he gave a warning that recycling through the markets was facing a downward trend.

Whereas in the first 10 months of this year the Euro-currency markets had taken two-fifths of the total surplus oil money now they were likely to account for less than one-fifth.

That was healthy, Dr Emminger argued, since too great a reliance on the market mechanism might one day produce "real difficulties".

The latest OECD estimate puts the cash surplus of the oil exporting countries to be invested at \$50,000m and their balance of payments current account surplus at \$60,000m both for this year and next, three-quarters of this being with the OECD countries.

Survey looks at hoteliers' tax burdens

By Patricia Tisdall

British hoteliers are being worse treated in terms of direct taxation and grants than hoteliers in other European countries and in other industries. This is one of the conclusions drawn in a report on hotels and government policy issued yesterday by the National Economic Development Office.

It found that in the other five countries considered, capital allowances are given on hotel buildings. Only in the United Kingdom and in Denmark are allowances withheld altogether from some sectors of industry. Other countries reviewed are France, Germany, Spain and Switzerland. The United Kingdom is the only country, it says, where hotel buildings are not depreciable for tax purposes.

A different picture emerged for capital allowances on interior assets. These typically constitute about 30 per cent of investment (excluding land in large hotels). The report found that Britain, with nationwide 100 per cent first-year allowances, is making maximum use of allowances as an investment incentive to an extent unmatched elsewhere.

The study found that with regard to direct taxation and grants, the hotel industry was relatively badly treated until the introduction of the hotel development incentive scheme. With the ending of this scheme, the position has again deteriorated. The purpose of the study was the hotels and catering economic development committee of NEDO by Deloitte, Robson Morrow & Company Management Consultants.

Hôtels et Gouvernement Policy, 75p, from Nelly Books, NEDO, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX.

'Saudi offer of cheaper crude to Germany'

By Peter Hill

Saudi Arabia is planning to sell oil to West Germany at below the world market price, according to *Quick*, the weekly German journal, in an interview with Shah Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's petroleum minister.

Quick quotes Yamani as saying that his country plans to cut the profits of oil companies and pass on the benefits to consumers.

Referring specifically to West Germany, he said: "We are of the opinion that oil price increases harm West Germany's economic system in such a manner that we ourselves will be hurt."

He did not say when and by how much the oil prices for Germany would be lowered, but he stated that his country wanted to deal directly with governments because the profits of the international oil companies were "too large".

In the interview Yamani urged the oil consumers to work together with the oil-producing nations to ensure that some kind of an increase or additional tax was not levied on the price of petrol.

His remarks concerning possible below-market price deals with West Germany will undoubtedly add to the oil industry's confusion over price changes and the position of Saudi Arabia, in terms of its relationship with other members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Earlier this month, Saudi Arabia together with Abu Dhabi and Qatar implemented a new pricing policy which involved a cut in posted prices, but increases in royalty and income tax rates. Oil industry experts consider that this latest move will result in a 50 cents-a-barrel increase in the price of around 95 per cent of Saudi Arabian oil.

Warning on unemployment policies to fight inflation

By Malcolm Brown

Those who said that an increase in unemployment would bring the nation to its senses on inflation were spreading a dangerous doctrine. Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Institute of Management Council, told managers in Manchester last night. He added: "High unemployment will deliver us straight into the hands of the extremists."

The unions still had a social role to play, but they were faced with a basic dilemma.

"Are they there to get the maximum increase for those with maximum bargaining power or are they there to preserve a decent wage and jobs for all?"

It was up to management as well as the trade unions to try to make the social contract work and keep down unemployment.

In a stern warning to the unions, he said that they would have to do more than speak with the voice of the militiamen if they were to look after the interests of their members.

The unions still had a social role to play, but they were faced with a basic dilemma.

"Are they there to get the maximum increase for those with maximum bargaining power or are they there to preserve a decent wage and jobs for all?"

Telephones giant accused of stifling rivals

Continued from page 1

and which alone has annual sales of more than \$7,000m. The Department of Justice also aims to make A. T. and T. to give up all or some of its long telecommunication line operations.

There was no time for the share markets to react because the Securities and Exchange Commission suspended all trading in A. T. and T. an hour before the Justice Department announced its suit.

The company has more stockholders than any other in the world, with 2.9 million holders of its common shares, 700,000 holders of its preferred shares and 800,000 bond owners. The shares last traded at \$45.

Named as defendants in the Justice Department's action are A. T. and T. as well as its Western Electric and Bell Telephone Laboratories subsidiaries.

The suit asks that Western Electric be broken up into two or more competing companies to ensure competition in the manufacture of telecommunications equipment.

The suit does not say how the company's long line operations should be restricted and this matter would be left to the court to determine.

It maintains that A. T. and T. and its subsidiaries have conspired to monopolize the telecommunications market and have stifled all competition in the sector.

The company operates almost entirely in the United States, where it has dominated the telecommunications industry for decades. It runs the Bell Telephone System throughout America and this employs 1,015,000 people.

A. T. and T.'s total assets were \$71,700m at the end of its last financial year on August 31.

The suit could well take many years to settle. It comes at a time when the department is involved in an anti-trust action against International Business Machines (IBM), which was started almost six years ago.

The IBM case has still not gone to trial, but a firm trial date is expected within the next couple of months.

Department officials said that they hoped the case could be completed within three years.

A toughening of the Government's anti-trust policies is clearly indicated by the case. It is significant that the action concentrates largely on A. T. and T.'s manufacturing business, rather than on its vast telephone service sector.

Conciliation service will have to take on more staff

By Clifford Webb

With the additional work expected when the controversial Employment Protection Bill becomes law next summer, the two-month Conciliation and Arbitration Service will need to be strengthened, it was revealed yesterday.

The Bill has been criticized by the Confederation of British Industry which claims that none of the 96 clauses is designed to help employers, and that it will make strike action more tempting than negotiations.

Mr John Morris, chairman of CAS, told a news conference in Birmingham yesterday that the independently run body would be called upon "to pursue its advisory capacity" to assist both sides in disputes on new issues which would arise out of the proposed Bill. He listed maternity leave and time-off for public and trade union duties as possible contentious issues.

He said CAS was already playing a key role in reducing the number of cases of alleged wrongful dismissal appearing before industrial tribunals.

It has been proposed once, and it appears, again, that such circumstances competent and reasonable employees will have no right of appeal and no claim for compensation to a fully independent tribunal or court.

We have asked the Secretary of State to give Fred a break.

Puzzled, Fred goes to the Personnel Department where he is told that nothing can be done to help him.

Fred is not so easily "put off". He is a competent worker. He is left alone for a bit. Then some trouble blows up in the shop which Fred doesn't want to get involved in.

It comes out that he hasn't joined the union. Everybody in the shop, including Fred, says a few things that would have been better left unsaid. There is a strike or a go-slow or an overtime ban.

The employer calculates how much money he is losing. Union officials say the men are angry because Fred won't join. Fred is either transferred to another shop; or his subscription to the union is paid by the employer; or he leaves and joins the jump; or he goes on the dole.

Economic expediency and collective emotion have joined forces to trample on whatever sort of integrity Fred was hanging on to.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Closed shops: giving Fred the break he is entitled to

From Mr Paul Nicholson

Sir, The force of economic expediency is sometimes used by employers to justify their actions. The force of collective action is sometimes used by unions to justify their actions. These complementary forces are sometimes at work against individuals. They need to be checked by the authority of humanity and justice.

Everybody involved in industrial relations knows the story of Fred which illustrates my point.

Fred gets a new job. He is married, with a family, and plays a full part in his community back home. A union representative meets him shortly after he has started work and asks him to join the union. Fred says he doesn't belong to a union, unless he objected on religious grounds to membership of any union whatsoever.

Puzzled, Fred goes to the Personnel Department where he is told that nothing can be done to help him.

Fred is not so easily "put off". He is a competent worker. He is left alone for a bit. Then some trouble blows up in the shop which Fred doesn't want to get involved in.

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Economic expediency and collective emotion have joined forces to trample on whatever sort of integrity Fred was hanging on to.

We have asked the Secretary of State to give Fred a break.

PAUL NICOLSON,
General Secretary,
Confederation of Employee
Organizations,
99b High Street,
Hertfordshire.
November 17.

Russian-West alumina techniques

From Mr D. Jaffe

Sir, I fully support the view put forward by Mr Levi in his letter (November 8) that alumina production based on indigenous minerals should be developed to help our balance of trade by reducing imports of bauxite.

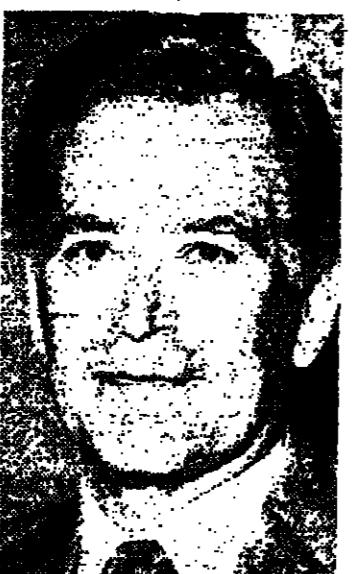
However, from my knowledge of the alumina industry as research into methods of alumina extraction from silicate minerals is well established by research in the West and I know of one corporation in the United States which appreciates fully the use of by-products to the cement industry.

The technical basis of a process has been well established by research in the West and I know of one corporation in the United States which appreciates fully the use of by-products to the cement industry.

They have assessed the production of alumina from silicate minerals such as

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Still no joy from Woolworth



Mr. J. D. Slater, chairman of Lubok Investments: A new bid.

third quarter of its year—the three months ended October—F. W. Woolworth at last achieved a slight increase in sales, up 19 per cent, bringing nine months total up 20 per cent to £330m, it was then respectable, it urged. Or was it? It was up £4.82m in exports—almost all of sales to a £10m sale back arrangement re-concluded in pre-tax, lunged by over 41 per cent for the third quarter, leaving margins total down 19 per cent at £16.2m and that the group will put to achieve more in pre-tax for the full year £42.6m, for the 13 months. This has the dividend, if any will be recovered, and the 17.3 per cent at 33p (on a same-substitution) has to be in this context.

Woolworth has an a parent to consider in any cuts, and its financial looks relatively quite apart from the sales there is taxation with some 7.5m on last stock appreciation, and, though interest charges doubled in the nine so far to £2.48m and a big loan due for repayment in the next couple of years is still there. So even if a dividend cannot be ruled out, it is likely to be substantial trading experience the final quarter is bismal.

What is just what sort of gain this ailing needs to set its margins in the right direction? If it is the 20 per cent so far into the final suggests that it's not going to get it.

There is no evidence here of any resurgence in towards which Woolworth has been working for years now. Trading conditions are not likely to pick up. And costs are rising ahead. So the imports are plain enough: to leave the shares or the moment.

Interim 1974 (1973-74)
Capitalisation £125m
(£102m)
Profits £10.5m (£10.0m)

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as are here again, or so I seem if the rise and fall of Lubok Investments is to go by. A few weeks pointed out that Mr Jim was fast disproving that it was no longer to make money quickly, stage his £500,000 plus in Lubok Investments as recently as 1974—had just doubled in the profit, on paper standing well clear of Jim mark and we are highly valued paper sued to bring in cash up an asset value share price had been some distance in its

question, then, with the 1.34p is whether it is riding the bandwagon further. Even after the ash-shell catch in the Elevators and Engineers—less a disappointment the moment anyway, of cash-rich San Paolo—not assets per share to rise no more than a pence on a proforma fully figure of just under 14p investments in the West Cemment. To that, however, can add the appreciation of the gold share content investment portfolio over weeks. That lifts net to 20p.

It is clearly plenty of investment perform-

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Financial News and Market Reports

bar price up £25 to a record £630

blentless rise in London prices continued yesterday again new peak levels. The daily price was higher to £630 a tonne in the performance of and the tone of the physical.

I feel that sentiment an additional boost when I house confirms paying a bid for a cargo of April Trinidad raws on Tuesdays latest reports also said French importers purchased tonnes of Peruvian raws for during January/June but sales were uncertain.

Imports were registered in May/Aug after lunch, while of the board although of early strength later from 10pm onwards, nights on and jobbing activity, October finished £10.50

while other positions gains of £20 to £33.

house Drake and Carty bid to Reuters that it had cargo of Guyana raw 2584 bbl stowed for April

single tone was firm, Dec. 6.00 a long ton (after 5.00 a long ton) limit as well as bid Oct. 2370.00.

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BELLI'S SCOTCH WHISKY

"Before ye go"

Stock Exchange Prices

Fresh setback in gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began Nov 11. Dealings End Nov 22. £ Contrango Day, Nov 25. Settlement Day, Dec 3.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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LESS NOTICES

o recommended to save time and avoid legal expenses.

DEPENDENT
NATIONAL TRUST
SCHOOL
HERTS

On April 3 to 11, 1975, the duration of one year, a notice of redundancy will be given to him, failing which he will be entitled to redundancy pay at the rate of £100 per week.

Received by post or telegrams.

For Times.

OWN CASH
LESS BRISTOL

DR. BURGESS the local authority's agent living district. This is a momentous decision. A good long tease — no premium. Alternative cash necessary amount, £1000 and over, than four o'clock in December 1974.

ANGLOWEST

110, Gt. Titchfield Street, London NW9 6XZ

One 01-205 3513

NITY FOR N.E.-B.
ANT TEACHER

Invest £3,000 for a membership in a new society to be opened in 1975.

M. The Times.

CHARITY

Charitable requires to apply in the Notting Hill area or will take over charity.

Nottingham 269326

DRIVING
L COMPANY

With manufacturing with freehold factory, £15,000 as loan or partnership offered to active participants.

D. The Times.

COUNTRY HOTEL

Young man, late 20s, with some capital, s.e. entertainment, and licensed trade, user for nightclub.

Available 03-4232

Ellie.

CLUB FINANCE

Business opportunities, s.e. entertainment, and licensed trade, user for nightclub.

London, E.C.2

London 089 72625.

Recent on office furniture. For Sale and Wanted.

MAIL
NUTY
EARNINGS

£-10 of your letters worth.

Opportunities for sons of integrity and we will be pleased to liaise.

Company and its personal selling.

It is totally refundable by the company.

Applicants will be asked to fill in all forms and write or phone :

VE CONTROLLER

3 MORE STREET,

JONN W.A.

01-402 8577.

SES FOR SALE

ASTBOURNE

Businesses for sale. Old established ladies' wear and Present leases.

Low rent.

Goodwill £5,750.

Business unprofitable.

13 M. The Times.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00278 of 1974.

In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Court of Civil Justice, London, in the
matter of FAIRH-PROPER-
TAN & CO. LTD., Claimant, v.
The COMPANIES ACT, 1948, Part I,
Section 10(1) of the said Act.

NOTICE is hereby given that a
Petition is filed by the above-named Company by the
15th day of November 1974, presented
to the said Court by Smith & Sons, Ltd., Litigation Department,
Holdings, 21, Temple Row, Edward
Street, Birmingham, B1 2JL.

And that the Petition is directed to be heard before the
Court of Civil Justice, Birmingham, B1 2JL, on the 1st day of
December 1974, at 10.30 a.m.

The Petition is as follows:

That the Petition is directed to be heard before the
Court of Civil Justice, Birmingham, B1 2JL, on the 1st day of
December 1974, at 10.30 a.m.
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December

Secretarial and General Appointments also on page 25

GENERAL

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT LONDON

We are looking for a woman who can combine the duties of a Personnel Officer, Sales Executive and Organisation Consultant positively. Our consultants must be self-reliant, capable and convincing us before convincing our clients of their ability to succeed.

Once appointed, as part of the young but widely respected Hounds-Bowers organisation, it will be your responsibility to motivate new contacts and successfully complete contract recruitment assignments on their behalf. The successful consultant can expect to earn up to £3,000 in the first year, assisted by comprehensive training and nationwide back-up facilities. The ultimate rewards are yours as the next task of contacting Norman Marks,

EXECUTEMPS,
21/22 Poland Street, W.1. 01-734 5043.

SALES LADY FOR WALLCOVERINGS

Women (aged 25-40) with sound sales experience are invited to apply for an interesting and challenging position selling super wallcoverings primarily to architects and designers in London and the Home Counties. Applications invited from those interested in interior design, boundless energy and a pleasant and sociable personality. A high basic salary is offered which will rise as rapidly as the successful applicant's sales results.

Fair product training will be provided together with a company car and all out-of-pocket expenses.

Applications in writing to: ROGER SMURTHWAITE, TEXTURED WALL COVERINGS LTD., 2-5 BENJAMIN ST., LONDON EC1M 5SH.

BOOK-KEEPER/ OFFICE MANAGER

£3,000 negotiable

Substantial sales company requires experienced Book-keeper to maintain full set of accounts records and handle office administration. Pleasant office in Kensington.

Phone 937 9992
or 937 9082

PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT

£2,500

Personnel Assistant with good secretarial skills and specific recruitment experience required. Responsible for personnel of large International Co. Responsible for general office administration. Genuine career opportunity. Ring Joanna Corbett on 823 8223.

AJAX DATA PROCESSING
LTD.

TIRED OF COMMUTING?

Administrative Assistant able to take responsibility required for a small firm of publishers. Varied work includes preparation of monthly statements, bank reconciliation, telephone, telex and facsimile scheme available. Apply in writing giving details of experience and salary required. Tel. 01-521 2255 after appearance of this AD.

The Middlesex Hospital
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LIBRARY ASSISTANT

A full-time assistant is required for the patients' and staff library and is also required to assist in the library in the preparation of books for loan.

Exciting and challenging position with plenty of responsibility.

Assistance with accommodation provided.

Apply in confidence to:

Mrs. J. Thompson,
Secretary to the Director,
MARSHALL HOUSE LTD.,
Marshall House, 1st St. Mary's
Ave., Twickenham, Middlesex,
Surrey, TW1 6EZ.

£3,000 negotiable

including London Weighting (allowance expected) and Threshold.

Application form obtainable from:

Tel. 01-526 8232, ext. 3051.
TO BE RETURNED 2 WEEKS
AFTER APPEARANCE OF THIS
AD.

£2,500

Intelligent and experienced with Ledger experience to 1.B. to take over a variety of responsibilities in Accounts department of a major holding company. Good salary and annual bonus. £1,250 L.V.s and other benefits. Apply to Mr. Challenor, 29, 52 Grosvenor Road, E.C.1. 01-251 0126.

VIDAL SASSOON

Due to our European expansion programme we require attractive German speaking young lady as Head Receptionist, for our new Dusseldorf salons.

PLEASE APPLY
01-629 0813

INTERVIEWER (24 to 30) required for well known specialist agency dealing with advertising and promotional advertising people (no Secretary). Good experience, good pay. Good employment record. Good experience. Basic to £2,500 plus plus. Apply to Mrs. Diane Raphael, Box 0073 M, The Times.

HOUSE SERVICES Manageress to assist in the running of a rapidly expanding business. £2,500 to £3,000 req. Please ring 084 493 5221 to discuss the position further.

LADY WARDEN, aged up to 55, required for residential post at young women's college, N.W.1. Local knowledge essential, but good health necessary. Good experience in professional field. Please write giving ref. on both envelope and card to Mrs. G. R. H. Fleet, 103-105 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. Offer free advice on overseas studies. See page 25.

CAN YOU CONTROL FIGHTER PILOTS? Your colleagues at RAF Fighter Pilots, operating from RAF Coningsby, are looking for a quick mind and the will to work in a team, you could train to be a pilot in 18 months. Small kitchen with 2 assistants. Good salary and benefits. Apply on Interco like nuclear fighter. Salary enormous! Join Flying Selection, 100 Eaker Street, N.W.1. 01-521 5764.

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We have positions at all levels. Accountants to these for fully qualified and experienced Accountants. We want you to break into accountancy or to break out of your present situation. Please contact Ann Buckner, Executive Division, 564 6035.

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Reliable intelligent arti with initiative required in the City. Good salary and benefits.

CALL CLARISSA BASS,
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£2,200

SECRETARY/ SHORTHAND TYPIST

required for partners of surveyors, valuers and estate agents close to Victoria Station.

Phone: Mrs. A. Smith,
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS,
235 8099.

£2,000

ARCHITECTS AND
INTERIOR DESIGNERS

In New Bond Street require
young Secretary with initiative
to assist in day-to-day office
operations. Staff Associates in
friendly office. IBM Goffill typewriter.

£1,800

AND L.V.S.

Phone 01-493 6271

£2,500 + TWO
ANNUAL BONUSES

required by West End Chartered Surveyors. £2,000 plus, according to age and ability. Must be capable of working on own initiative.

APPLY Mrs. D. Clegg,
100 NEW BOND ALBRIGHT,
36 Piccadilly, London, W.1.
01-734 5571.

£2,000

CHAIRMAN LEVEL ?

Our client, the Chairman of a group of companies, is a man of considerable experience and a true right hand. Of great diplomatic, efficiency and tact, he has to liaise effectively at all levels with his staff and with outside agencies. Public School education and a good deal of social and personal experience are essential. Salary c. £25,000.

tel: 01-521 2456, 01-521 2457.

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£2,200

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g figure

atest increase in the price of items to have been received by us with quiet resignation. Few are bothered to fill up their take advantage of the old before the increase came into Monday.

s in complete contrast to the wing and long queues at the year, but there is an essence. Then there was a very strict of rationing; now it is up to us to ration himself. To be seen whether this 81p achieves Mr Healey's objective—cutting the wasteful use of

if petrol costs 70p or more by the New Year, once a shock has worn off the 1 sales may be surprisingly begin with something like all petrol (according to industry guesses) is bought whose employers foot the companies, of course, may minimize but in most cases the will simply be passed on.

private motorist, who has to pay out of his own pocket, down on his mileage for a in the long run he will grin up. Having, at considerable cost to him on the road he is used to it. And if he cares to sum, he will find that 81p on will increase an average annual budget by only

product of Mr Healey's intent has been a waste of d advice about fuel saving, sensible, some misleading, to see that British Leyland advertisement this week fell he "constant speed" device Austin Morris range, you drive a Marina 1.8 couple constant speed of 30 mph you to return 52 miles to the 40 mph you get 48 mpg and at possible guidance is that erage motorist, who seldom chance of driving at constant and certainly not for any time?

really wants to know is the consumption he can expect a car in town taking it to the shops and so on daily, a curious figure which of a longer drive on the For the Marina 1.8 couple gasoline (source of Leyland's figures) returned 22.5 g respectively, which is very own experience.

end of the day there is no fuel economy, you buy or your XJ12 and take the test. That does not rule out a best use of what you have, driving and by looking after

t means minimum use of no grand prix starts, sudden or fierce braking; in other driving, anticipating what and making moves well in second involves regular items like the air filter, lugs, carburetor and fan under-inflated tyres can



Citroën's ageless runabout. The 2CV returns to Britain after an absence of 13 years.

Road test: Citroën 2CV

With perfect timing, I borrowed Citroën's ageless runabout the day after Mr Healey announced his 81p on petrol. For here is an ideal car for the fuel crisis. It runs happily on two-star petrol and returns a minimum of 40 miles to the gallon in town driving and 45-plus on the open road. The 2CV is also, at £899, one of the cheapest cars on the British market and from many points of view the best value for money in its price range. Few small cars come anywhere near it in road-holding and ride comfort and it is great fun to drive.

Although the 2CV has been in production since 1948, Citroën has only just started selling right-hand drive versions in Britain after a gap of 13 years. With fuel likely to be even more expensive before the end of the year, one should be in brisk demand. Like all Citroëns, it is an acquired taste but to the 2CV will probably find the fascinatory push-pull gear change rather awkward at first and I confess that I was still getting used to it after several days. And the handbrake, another company rather than an individual and the one thing companies are short of at the moment is ready cash.

To meet the situation, two German importers, BMW and Mercedes, are looking to launch cheaper models in Britain early in the new year. The BMW will be the S18, the bodyshell of the S20/S25 with a smaller, 1800cc engine. The S18 was rushed on in direct response to the energy crisis and maybe a pointer for other luxury car makers. It is doubtful whether putting the less powerful engine in a big and heavy car will produce better fuel consumption, and performance must suffer a little, but the point about the S18 is that it will offer many of the advantages of the S20/S25, space, comfort, handling and so on, at a significantly lower price. The BMW importers are determined to sell the S18 here (probably in February) at not more than £3,000, or nearly £450 less than £3,330, or nearly £450 less than the S20.

The cheapest Mercedes sold in Britain costs £3,825. It is the 230/4 which, as the designation implies, has a four-cylinder engine of 2.3 litres capacity. But in Germany the Mercedes range extends down to the 200, which has the same body as the 230, and the greater power-to-weight ratio suggests little benefit in fuel consumption and almost certainly a loss of performance but, as with the BMW S18, the 200 would offer the essential Mercedes quality (engineering, finish, safety and comfort) at a price more suited to the economic climate.

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Peter Waymark

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across a ploughed field without breaking them. With light steering and an

casting

mirror on the wall—with the Miss World contest facing us tomorrow we holds up the television glass to the American beauty contest (BBC2) at Scotland turns her back on the beauty for a drama about the men who grind the glass (BBC1 9.25). Fabia Drake teaches Hattie Jacques first Sykes comedy show (BBC1 8.00) and training for the moped rider is in Drive-In (ITV 10.30). But do you see yourself as an artist? There is a h-t series of lessons (ITV 12.30).—L.B.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 am Play School. Pebble Mill 1.45. 6.45, Measurement in Education 7.05-7.30, Open University 4.00. 5.25, Deputy Education 7.30. Newsday Cakes and Ale by W. Somerset Maugham part 2. Jane Austen Lived Here: Gwendoline Cecilia at 4.45. The Times Survival 5.00. Today 6.00. Today. 6.35. Crossroads. 7.00. Good Afternoon 3.00. The Sun 3.35. About Britain 10.30. Boney 11.30. Angling 12.00-12.15 am What the Papers Say 5.00. The Times Saturday 5.20. 5.30. News. 6.00. Today. 6.35. Crossroads. 7.00. The Six Million Dollar Man 1.45. This Week 9.00. Father Brown 10.00. Drive-In 11.00. What the Papers Say 11.15. People's Politics 11.15. Jimmy Callaghan MP 11.15. Russian Witness 12.00. Thames 1.20 pm Chuckleheads 1.30. Thames 3.25. About Britain 3.35. Crossroads 4.20. Tarzan 5.15. ATV 5.40. 6.00. 6.35. TV 7.00. Film: Jack Palance and Christopher Stone in Wheeler and Murphy 8.30. Thames 10.30. Granada Profile 11.00. Thames 11.20-12.30 am Film: John Justin in Candidate for Life.

Granada

1.20 pm. Thematics 1.20 pm Chuckleheads 1.30. Thames 3.25. Jokers Wild 3.35. About Britain 3.45. ATV 5.20. 6.00. 6.35. TV 7.00. Film: Five Finger Death Punch 7.30. Newsday 7.30. Eddie Waller Number Six 12.30 am Film: John Justin in Candidate for Life.

Border

12.00 pm. Thematics 1.25. Border 2.00. Radio 1 7.00. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.02. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.05. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.08. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.10. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.12. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.15. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.18. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.20. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.22. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.25. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.28. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.30. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.32. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.35. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.38. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.40. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.42. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.45. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.48. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.50. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.52. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.55. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.58. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.60. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.62. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.65. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.68. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.70. Terry Wogan 8.00. Radio 1 7.72. Terry Wogan 8.00. 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Deadline for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for personal advertisements) is 13.00 hrs. Friday 16th November. Copy for cancellation. For Monday's issue the copy must be received by 13.00 hrs. on all cancellations & Stop Notices. Please enclose address. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this should be mentioned.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors but occasionally mistakes do occur. Carefully check and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are processed daily mistakes do occur and we ask that you check your ad and if you see any error tell us. In the Classified Queries department of The Times, telephone 01-837 1234. (Ext 1234). Your letter may not be respond for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

"(JESUS SAID): ... If any man intrude into my house come unto me and abide." St John 7. 37.

BIRTHS

BYRD—On November 14th, in Little Norman's and Edward's, 5134 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada—son Rupert Samuel.

CARTER—On 17th November at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England, to Jane (nee Taubers) and Christopher Carter—a daughter, Emma Rose.

CURTIS—On November 11th, at St. Peter's Hospital, Wimbleton, to Lillian (nee Wright) and David, a sister for Christopher.

DAVENPORT—On November 10th, to Carole (nee Gibson) and Jim Dewsmaur, 101 Grosvenor Road, London, to Françoise (nee Bourie) and Michael Lang—son, William.

LANG—On November 10th, at St. Peter's Hospital, Wimbleton, to George (son) Chester Riley.

DUNNELL—On November 10th, Lynn (nee) and John Daniels—a son, Alexander William.

LAW—On November 10th, to John Lucas, at home, and John Lucas—son, Michael—son, John Lucas.

MCGILLIVRAY-MORRISON—On November 17th, 1974, at St. Peter's Hospital, Wimbleton, to Christine (nee Johnson) and David Morrison—son, Nicholas.

MOUNTFORD—On November 15th, to Georgina and Peter son, Nicholas.

ROBERTSON—On November 15th, in London, to Kathy and Tony Scott—son, Christopher.

ROBINSON—On November 20th, to Sarah (nee Gordon) and Patrick Robinson—son, Michael—son, Eddie.

ADOPTION—See Adoption.

ROBINSON—See Adoption.

ROBINSON—See Adoption.

ROBINS—See Adoption.